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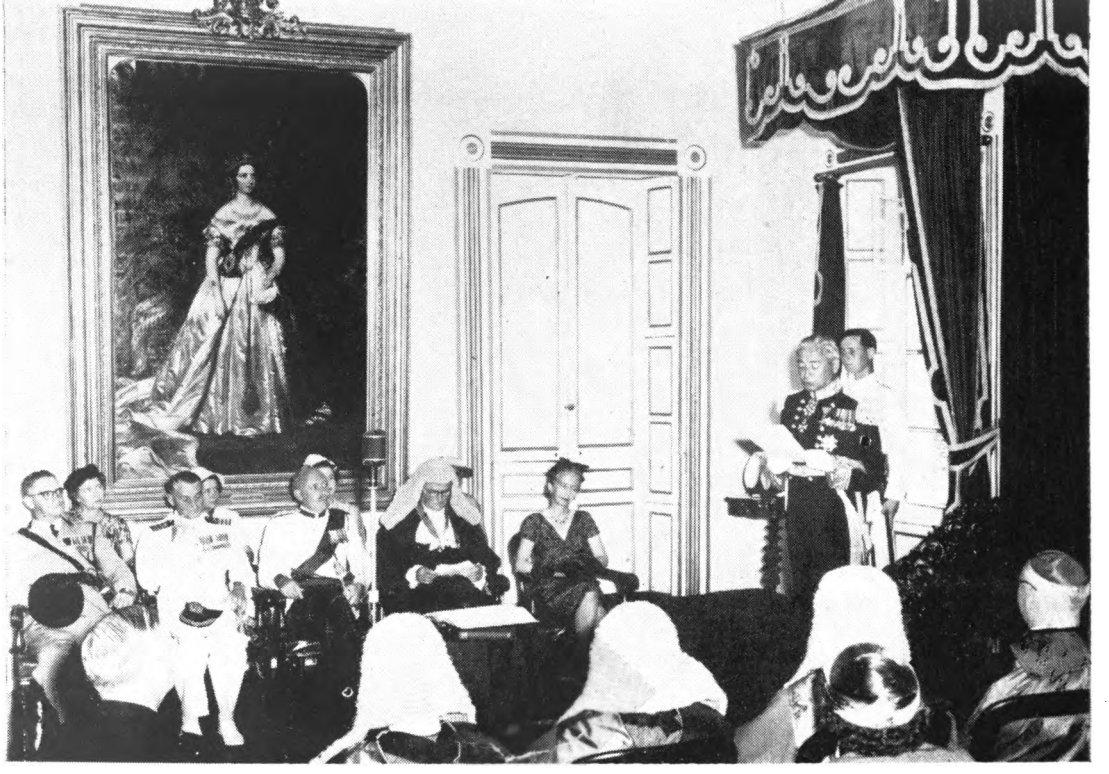
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INSTALLATION OF SIR COLVILLE MONTGOMERY DEVERELL, K.C.M.G., O.B.E., C.V.O., AS GOVERNOR OF MAURITIUS AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE, PORT LOUIS, ON 3RD NOVEMBER, 1959

H.E. the Governor, Sir Colville Montgomery Deverell, K.C.M.G., O.B.E., C.V.O., delivering a speech on the occasion of his installation as Governor of Mauritius.

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Report

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Mauritius

1959



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PART I

Review of the Year 1959

GOVERNOR

Sir Robert Scott, K.C.M.G., Governor of Mauritius and its Dependencies since March, 1954, left the Colony on the 10th July. He was succeeded by Sir Colville Montgomery Deverell, K.C.M.G., C.V.O., O.B.E., who arrived in the Colony, by R.A.F. aircraft, on the 2nd November accompanied by Lady Deverell.

POLITICAL

An important event during the year, and a significant step in the constitutional history of Mauritius was the first general election on the basis of universal adult suffrage. The arrangements for the election were put in hand early in the year. The new registers of electors came into force on the 19th January; Writs of Election for the forty constituencies were issued on the 20th January. The 6th February was appointed by Proclamation as the day for the holding of the general election (nomination day); the 9th March was appointed by the Governor as the day for the taking of a poll.

Each constituency was contested and there were in all 159 candidates. Of these, 32 belonged to the Mauritius Labour Party, 30 to the Independent Forward Block, 22 to the *Parti Mauricien*, 7 to the Muslim Committee of Action and 7 to the Independent Labour Party, 61 candidates stood as Independents. Of the Independents, two stood under the style of socialist syndicalists and were not opposed by the Labour Party; one independent was supported by the *Parti Mauricien;* two were claimed to be Independent Forward Block candidates though they had accepted symbols as Independents; one obtained the full support of the Labour Party following the invalidation of the nomination paper of the Party's official candidate in that particular constituency. The Labour Party and the Muslim Committee of Action concluded an electoral alliance under which both parties agreed to support each other's candidates in the field. Symbols of identification were allotted to the candidates from a set of approved symbols, party candidates standing on symbols allotted to their respective parties and independent candidates on symbols specifically allotted to them. Care was taken not to allot the same symbol to independent candidates in adjacent constituencies or to allow combination of symbols to indicate any electoral alliance.

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Polling was heavy and in all 191,586 of the 208,684 registered electors voted. The number of abstentions was 17,098; 3,749 of the votes cast were held invalid. With an expanded electorate and simultaneous polling in all the constituencies the authorities were faced with a problem of some magnitude but with the cooperation of candidates and the electorate the whole operation was conducted with remarkable smoothness, such incidents as occurred were of a minor importance. The results which were announced on the 10th March, were as follows:—

Labour Party	23
Independent Forward Block	6
Muslim Committee of Action	5
Party Mauricien	3
Independent (one supported by Labour and two socialist syndicalists)	3
	40

The names of the members returned for the forty constituencies are given in Appendix III.

Two election petitions, one in respect of the election for Rivière des Anguilles constituency and the other in respect of the election for Curepipe constituency, were presented to the Supreme Court. The Court held that the election in each case was void and that a new election should accordingly be held for each constituency. A Writ for a by-election for Rivière des Anguilles constituency was accordingly issued on the 7th August. The poll taken on the 21st September and the member returned for the constituency in the general election was returned again. The Writ for the holding of the by-election for Curepipe constituency was issued on the 30th November, nomination day fixed for the 17th December and the poll due to be taken on the 11th January, 1960.

The new Constitution provides for a Legislative Council consisting of the Speaker and three *ex officio* members, forty elected members, and such nominated members, not exceeding twelve in number, as the Governor may appoint. In accordance with the powers conferred upon him by section 22(1) of the Mauritius (Constitution) Order in Council and on the basis of the guiding principles embodied in the London Agreement, the Governor appointed twelve Nominated Members.

Part II of the Mauritius (Constitution) Order in Council, 1958, which relates to the Executive Council, was brought into operation on the 7th March by Proclamation. This had the effect of dissolving the Executive Council as constituted under the 1947 Constitution. A new Executive Council was constituted following the general

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election and after the appointment of the Nominated Members. Besides the *ex officio* members, nine members were appointed by the Governor in accordance with the powers conferred upon him by section 7 of the Order in Council, seven being Elected Members of the Legislative Council and two Nominated Members. All Members, of the new Executive Council, who are styled Ministers, were entrusted with the administration of specified departments and subjects. Ministers assumed office on the 6th April. A list of the Ministers and their portfolios is in Appendix II.

The first Legislative Council under the new Constitution was formally opened on the 7th April and was prorogued on the 15th December.

Economic and Financial

Climatic conditions in 1959 were abnormal: a dry season during the first half of the year was followed by a wet season during latter half of the year. Nevertheless, the 1959 sugar crop produced a record of 579,841 metric tons as compared with 525,842 metric tons in 1958.

The negotiated price under the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement was £45.2s.0d per ton and, with lower free market values during the year, the gross value of the 1959 crop is expected to be of the order of Rs 270,500,000. The negotiated price for the calendar year 1960 has been fixed at £44.8s. 10d per ton.

Tea production at 1,997,103 lbs showed an increased of some 72,445 lbs; exports at 1,023,461 lbs showed an increase of some 247,840 lbs as compared with 1958. An agreement was made with an overseas firm with experience in tea planting and manufacturing for the erection and operation of a new Government tea factory: the factory was completed during the year and began operations in April.

The closing of the Colony's accounts for the 1958–59 showed a deficit of Rs 3.5 million against an estimated surplus of Rs 2 million, expenditure having been under-estimated by Rs 11 million and revenue under-estimated by Rs 5.5 million. Expenditure on capital works, which is financed from the Capital Fund and excluded from the recurrent budget, amounted to Rs 28.6 million.

Two reviews of the Capital Expenditure Programme for 1957–62 were made in 1959 and published as Sessional Papers Nos. 3 of 1959 and 7 of 1959. As a result of these reviews the estimated total cost of the programme rose from Rs 210,252,000 to Rs 228,124,000. Of the major schemes a start was made on the

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Plaines Wilhems Sewerage Scheme; a contract was also given for some 8 miles of trunk road. Plans and specifications for the development of Port Louis Harbour were also drawn up and satisfactory progress was made with electricity development.

Social Services

Admissions to the Government and aided primary schools in January 1959 reached the figure of 20,245.

The number of pupils on roll (as at the 31st October) increased at the primary level from 115,629 in 1958 to 126,173 in 1959 and at the secondary level from 15,437 to 18,489. The school population increased from 131,066 in 1958 to 144,662 in 1959 and represents approximately one-fourth of the total population of the Colony.

Existing Government and aided primary schools were enlarged by the addition of fifty-one classrooms during the year. Nine new Government primary schools were opened. Two more schools were completed but had not been opened by the end of the year, while seven others were under construction. The new building for Youth House was completed. The building of the Science and Gymnasium block at the Royal College, Port Louis, and the extension of Queen Elizabeth College, could not be carried out during the year but work was begun on extensions to the Teachers' Training College.

Under Part II of the Education Ordinance (No. 39 of 1957), which relates to the control and inspection of schools, 3,020 teachers had been registered up to the 31st December, 1959.

The general health of the population continued to improve despite a sharp outbreak of poliomyelitis which lasted for 14 weeks and included 97 cases. Fortunately none of these cases was fatal. To check the epidemic use was made of live polio virus vaccine. The Poliomyelitis Research Foundation Laboratory in South Africa was supplied with specimens from which the polio virus prevalent in Mauritius was identified. Dr. Winter of the Research Foundation subsequently came to Mauritius with the Sabin vaccine to supervise its administration. Some 195,000 children between the ages of 6 months and 10 years received the vaccine.

As in past years, Mauritius continued to receive valuable assistance from the World Health Organisation. An agreement has been signed for the implementation of the recommendation made by the Organisation's experts in regard to malaria eradication in Mauritius. A nutrition survey team, sent by the Organisation to study the nature of the prevailing anaemia, established that the common form was that caused by a deficiency of iron in the diet. The iron enrichment of certain foods was therefore recommended.

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This recommendation is under implementation. Another team of experts sent to survey the incidence of tuberculosis completed its work; the report is awaited.

The increased cultivation and consumption of " gandia " *(Cannabis Sativa L)* gave cause for concern. A committee which was appointed to enquire into the use, cultivation and consumption of this narcotic, advised on certain measures which are now under implementation.

Doctor Murray A. Falconer, Director of Guy's Maudsley Neurosurgical Unit came to Mauritius to perform, free of charge, certain brain operations. The Medical Services also benefited from the visit of Mr. Graham Don, Lecturer in Public Health at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, who came to advise on a training scheme for Health Inspectors and on matters connected with public health.

Further progress was made with the expansion of medical facilities. An additional ward and an outpatients' department at Brown Sequard Hospital, and a new outpatients' department at Civil Hospital were completed during the year. Work was begun on the construction of health centres at Vacoas and Curepipe and on extensions to the Central School of Nursing.

It was announced early in the year that the Government had decided to introduce a comprehensive social security scheme and that the services of Professor Titmuss, an acknowledged expert on social security, had been secured in order to advise on the provisions to be made for social security consistent with the resources and the needs of the Island. An advance party of the " Titmuss Mission " visited the Island in August to prepare the material for further study and for preliminary discussions with Government officials and others concerned with problems of social security.

A preliminary survey of the problems of unemployment in the Colony was conducted by Mr. R. J. Walker, of the Man Power Division of the International Labour Office. Mr. K. J. Penniment, of the International Labour Office, also visited Mauritius to advise on the compilation of the cost of living index by the Central Statistical Office and the Labour Department.

Progress continued with housing. Of the Rs 10,000,000 provided in the 1957–62 Capital Expenditure Programme for housing loans to local authorities in the urban areas, Rs 2,300,000 had been issued by the end of the year.

Work was begun on two new housing schemes in the Township of Quatre Bornes (Cité St Jean and Newton House) and at the close of the year was well on the way to completion.

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Public Utilities

The extension of the domestic water supply system continued to make satisfactory progress.

Production of electricity rose to 55.9 million units in 1959 as compared with 48.9 million produced in 1958. A substantial amount of surplus power from sugar factories was purchased during the crushing season by the Central Electricity Board and 8½ million units from that source were fed into the public network, as against some 2 million in 1958. Work on new hydro-electric schemes proceeded satisfactorily. One station (La Ferme) with an installed capacity of 1,200 Kw and an output of 3 million units per annum was commissioned in May and the two other stations were expected to be completed early next year. Thermal generation, at about 30% of the total power produced, continued to provide an uneconomically high proportion of power sold.

Communications

The public railways system, which is used for the conveyance of goods only, continued to run at a loss. Bus services, however, continued to improve: a new bus station was built at Immigration Square in Port Louis and public service vehicle licences were granted by the Licensing Authority on several additional bus routes. The number of buses had increased by the end of the year to 423. This figure includes 12 small buses, each seating accommodation for 10 persons, which have proved useful and economical for urban routes. A daily average of 117,302 passengers travelled by bus.

The radio-telephone service operated by Cable and Wireless Ltd., was extended during the year. On the 15th July, radio-telephone services with the United Kingdom, France, and East Africa were inaugurated. In September the service was extended to the U.S.A. and Canada and in November to Algeria, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Italy, the Irish Republic, Luxembourg, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland and Tunisia. In December it was extended to Austria, Finland, Hungary and Sweden.

Urban Local Government

It was decided during the year that Municipal and Town Council elections should henceforth be held on the basis of universal adult suffrage in accordance with the franchise adopted in the previous year for the Legislative Council eletions. The Municipality (Transitional Provisions) Ordinance and the Town Councils (Transitional Provisions) Ordinance (Nos. 2 and 3 of 1959) were accordingly

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enacted to provide for the postponement of these local government elections, which were normally due to take place in December 1959, to a date in 1960 to be fixed by the Governor by Proclamation. Subsequently the Town Councils (Constitution) (Amendment) Ordinance and the Municipality (Amendment) Ordinance (Nos. 15 and 16 of 1959) were enacted to make new provisions for the constitution of the Town Councils and the Municipal Council, and especially to introduce the new franchise on the basis of universal adult suffrage.

Special (Mobile) Force

The decision was taken to withdraw the military garrison of Mauritius which had been maintained in the island since 1810. The withdrawal was planned for the end of June, 1960.

To replace the Garrison it was decided that a small, well-trained and highly mobile local force should be instituted, under a commandant who would have military experience, to be used in situations which would otherwise require the use of troops. This force, which will be entitled the Special (Mobile) Force will be based at Vacoas in accommodation to be released by the Garrison. Preliminary provision for the Force was included in the Estimates and arrangements were made for the recruitment to begin as soon as possible.

The Public Service

Mr. Richard Hayward, Secretary-General of the Staff Side of the Civil Service National Whitley Council in the United Kingdom, came to Mauritius on the 19th August on a three-week visit in order to advise on the proper development of the Whitley Council System and trade unionism in the public service. After discussions with the various organisations Mr. Hayward recommended that, in order to create the right conditions for the development of properly organised and responsible staff side, unions and associations should be organized on a clearly defined membership qualifications, that dual representation should be eliminated, and that every effort should be made by the existing Unions to agree on clear lines of demarcation. To assist in the achievement of these objectives, Mr. Hayward further recommended that there should be a moratorium of two years during which no requests for recognition would be received. Agreement was reached with the staff side on these and other recommendations.

The Commission of Enquiry into the Mauritius Police Force recommended at paragraph 121 of its report (Sessional Paper No. 2 of 1958) that a Police Service Commission should be set up as an advisory body to the Governor. The Mauritius (Constitution)

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(Amendment) Order in Council, 1959, provides for the establishment of such a Commission, with a chairman and not more than four members, to advise the Governor on any question relating to the appointment, dismissal or disciplinary control of members of the Police Force and on any other question affecting the Force. The Commission was appointed with effect from the 28th July in time to deal with the recruitment for the newly-instituted Special (Mobile) Force.

DEPENDENCIES

His Excellency the Governor travelling in the frigate H.M.S. *Leopard* visited Rodrigues on the 1st December. Owing to a heavy swell and strong winds the ship was unable to remain in anchorage for long and His Excellency had accordingly to curtail the programme of visits arranged for the occasion.

HONOURS

Her Majesty the Queen was graciously pleased to approve the following appointments and awards on the occasion of the New Year and on Her Birthday:—

NEW YEAR

Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire

MISS MARIE HÉLÈNE ODETTE TANK-WEN, Librarian, Supreme Court

LOUIS REX MOUTOU, Clerk of the Legislative Council.

BIRTHDAY

Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire

ANDRÉ GUY SAUZIER, E. D.

Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire

DENIS GEORGE BRITTON, M.B.E., Director of Audit.

MISS GWLADYS DAVIES, S.R.N., S.C.N., R.F.N., Principal Matron.

PHILIP LOWTHER HOTCHIN, B.Sc. (Agric.), D.T.A., Senior Agricultural Officer.

Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire

EDWIN EMMANUEL ABRAHAM, Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

MISS MARIE LOUISE JEANNE WIEHÉ.

Imperial Service Order

AUGUSTIN ROGER HARVAIS, Accountant General.

Certificates and Badges of Honour

His Excellency the Governor approved the following awards on the occasion of the New Year and on Her Majesty's Birthday:—

NEW YEAR

JOSEPH BASILE ALLAS, for public service in connexion with education and welfare in Rodrigues.

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BIRTHDAY

REV. MOTHER MARIE ANDRÉ, for public services in connection with education.

JEAN FREDDY LOUISE, for public services in connection with education and welfare.

LOMUS NUNDLOLL, for public services in connection with local government, health and co-operation.

RAPHAËL MUNISAMY, for loyal service.

BASDEO RAMUDHIN, for public services in connection with local government and the Youth Movement.

VISITORS

THE HON. T. G. D. GALBRAITH, M.P., Civil Lord of the Board of Admiralty.

MR. M. H. B. PATRICK WALL, Conservative M.P. for East Reading.

MR. BALVANTRAY G. MEHTA, Member of the Indian Parliament, Chairman of the Estimates Committee of the *Lok Sabha*.

MR. KAKASAHEB KALELKAR, Member of the Indian Parliament, Vice-President of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations.

HIS LORDSHIP CARLO VAN MELCKEBEKE, Bishop of Ningshia, China.

MR. PERREAU-PRADIER, Préfet of Réunion.

VICE ADMIRAL SIR DYMOCK WATSON, K.C.B., C.B.E., Commander-in-Chief, South Atlantic and South America and Lady Watson.

MR. R. LAMARLE, Ministre plenipotentiaire, Inspecteur Général des Postes Diplomatiques et Consulaires.

MR. A. E. BEACH, Consul-General for the United States in Pretoria, and MRS. BEACH.

MR. ERNEST GUBLER, Consul-General for Switzerland in Madagascar.

MAJOR-GENERAL N. P. H. TAPP, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., General Officer Commanding, East Africa Command.

REAR ADMIRAL E. C. STEPHAN, Commander, South Atlantic Force (COMSOLANT).

REAR ADMIRAL LA HAYE, Air Fleet Officer of the Mediterranean.

CAPTAIN W. G. MEEKE, M.B.E., D.S.C. and Bar, R.N Commanding Officer of H.M.S. *Lynx*.

CAPTAIN R. C. P. WAINWRIGHT, Chief of Staff, South Atlantic and South America Command.

CAPTAIN W. I. DIMITRIJEVIC, USN, Chief of Staff.

CAPTAIN VILBERT, Commanding Officer of French aircraft carrier ***Arromanches***.

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CAPTAIN VIVIER, Commanding Officer of escort vessel *La Bourdonnais.*

COMMANDER R. G. GAUNT, D.S.C., R.N., Commanding Officer of H.M.S. *Leopard.*

COMMANDING G. L. RAWLINGS, Commanding Officer of the USS *Jonas Ingram.*

WING COMMAMDER W. E. R. GRAY, A.F.C.

WING COMMANDER A. E. SIMS, O.B.E., L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., Organising Director of Music of the R.A.F.

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER J. M. COCHRANE, Commanding Officer of H.M. Submarine *Telemachus.*

SQUADRON LEADER J. L. WALLACE, M.B.E., L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., Director of Music, R.A.F. Central Band.

W. G. HARRIS, Civil Engineer-in-Chief, Admiralty.

MR. JACQUES DE LACRETELLE, of the French Academy.

SIR GEORGE SANGSTER DUNNETT, K.B.E., C.B., Chairman of the Sugar Board in the U.K. and LADY DUNNETT.

SIR EDWARD THOMPSON, Director of Barclays Bank Ltd. and LADY THOMPSON.

SIR CHRISTOPHER COX, K.C.M.G., Educational Adviser to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

MR. HUMPHREY MORRICE, Adviser to the Secretary of State for the Colonies on irrigation and drainage.

MR. C. SWABEY, Forestry Adviser to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

PROFESSOR HAROLD STEWART KIRKALDY, C.B.E., Professor of Industrial Relations, Cambridge University.

MR. JOHN HATCH, Commonwealth Officer of the British Labour Party.

MR. B. E. WHYTE, Leader of Australian Trade Mission.

MR. H. G. LOCKYER, of the Trade Services and Industries Branch, Department of Trade, Sydney, Manager of Australian Trade Mission.

MESSRS. O. F. BATHURST, H. DUNN, B. MAC KINLAY, C. BARRY-SMITH, E. R. VAN BLOMMENSTEIN and G. B. DICKER, Members of the Australian Trade Mission.

MR. R. J. INGLIS of New Zealand's Department of Industries and Commerce.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL MYA THAUNG, Deputy Chairman of the State Agricultural Marketing Board of Burma.

U. THEIN MAUNG, Manager, Rice Department, Steel Brothers & Co, Ltd., Rangoon.

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MR. HUGH T. JONES, Delegate of the New Zealand Dairy Products Marketing Board.

DR. W. G. BEATON, C.B.E., M.R.C.V.S., D.T.V.M., Director of the Inter-African Bureau of Epizootic Diseases.

DR. ALFRED GYNSBERG, Ph. D., M.R.C.V.S., M.V.D. (Lvov), Senior Veterinary Research Officer (Hygiene), Directorate of Veterinary Services, Kenya.

DR. PIERRE LUBET, Marine Biologist and expert on oyster culture, Professor of Zoology at the University of Tunis.

PROFESSOR W. G. MCINTYRE, of the University of Louisiana, U.S.A.

DR. S. GAUD, Consultant Epidemiologist, World Health Organisation.

MR. LUIS A. ORIHUELA, Environmental Sanitation Adviser to Regional Director, World Health Organisation.

DR. DONALD B. MCMULLEN and DR. Z. I. BUZO, Members of bilharziasis team, World Health Organisation.

MISS L. M. BELL, Regional Nursing Adviser, World Health Organisation, Regional Office for Africa.

MR. D. BARRET, of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

MR. KEVIN MUIR, Regional Secretary to the World Assembly of Youth.

MR. Y. W. CHRISTIANSEN, Director of the New Zealand Foundation for the Blind.

MRS. NINA B. MC KENZIE, of the International Planned Parenthood Federation.

MISS FRANCES COCKBURN, of the Central Office of Information, London.

VISITING SHIPS

H.M.S. *Lynx*, flying the flag of Vice Admiral Sir Dymock Watson, K.C.B., C.B.E., Commander-in-Chief, South Atlantic and South America, and commanded by Captain W. G. Meeke, M.B.E., D.S.C. and Bar, R.N. visited the Colony from the 25th to the 30th May. H.M.S. *Leopard*, flying the flag of the Commander-in-Chief, South Atlantic and South America, visited the Colony in November. The Colony was also visited by H.M. Submarine *Telemachus* in October.

The French aircraft carrier *Arromanches*, flying the flag of Rear Admiral La Haye, Air Fleet Officer of the Mediterranean, and the escort vessel *La Bourdonnais* visited the Colony in July.

The U.S.S. *Jonas Ingram*, flying the flag of Rear Admiral E. C. Stephan, Commander, South Atlantic Force (COMSOLANT), and members of his staff, paid a brief visit to the Colony in October.

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PART II

Chapter I: Population

A census of the population, which was taken during the night of the 28th—29th June, 1952, gave the following results:

Males ...	...	252,032
Females	...	249,383
TOTAL	...	501,415

The population of Mauritius as at the 31st December, 1959, was estimated therefrom at 631,200.

The natural increase, that is the excess of births over deaths in 1959 was 17,170, a number which is nearly 7 times the corresponding average for the five pre-war years (1935–39).

Civilian arrivals to the Colony exceeded departures by 93.

The average density of the population for the whole Island was 863 per square mile (calculated on the mid-year population).

BIRTHS

The number of live births during the year 1959 was 23,923, a decrease of 677 on the number for 1958, but an increase of 498 on the yearly average number of births for the ten years ending with 1958:

Males	*Females*	*Total*	*Male births per 1,000 female births*
12,107	11,816	23,923	1,025

The following are the birth rates (per 1,000 of the mid-year population) for the last six years:

1954	*1955*	*1956*	*1957*	*1958*	*1959*
41.3	41.8	43.8	43.1	40.8	38.5

Still-births, which are not included as either births or deaths, numbered 1,759 (907 males and 852 females), corresponding to a rate of 7.4 per hundred live births, as compared with 1,703 still-births, corresponding to a rate of 6.9 in 1958.

DEATHS

Deaths registered in Mauritius numbered 6,753, corresponding to a rate of 10.9 per 1,000 of the population. The month of maximum mortality was June with 615 deaths:

	Males	*Females*	*Total*
Number of deaths in 1959 ...	3,499	3,254	6,753
Rate per 1,000 of population	11·1	10·6	10·9

The average death rate for the period 1949–58 was 14.2.

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Infantile Mortality

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age during 1959 was 1,495 (1,659 in 1958). This number was considerably lower than in the quinquennial period 1944–48.

The following table shows the infantile mortality rate (i.e., the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live-births): —

Year	*Rate*
1944–1948 (average)	154·9
1953	93·5
1954	81·1
1955	67·2
1956	66·0
1957	75·1
1958	67·4
1959	62·5

Marriages

The following table gives the number of marriages for the last five years:

1955	*1956*	*1957*	*1958*	*1959*
2,797	3,080	2,903	3,169	3,297

Movement of the Civil Population

	Males	*Females*	*Total*
Arrivals	5,995	3,642	9,637
Departures	6,058	3,486	9,544

These figures include the very small figure of engaged or discharged seamen, and emigrants and immigrants to and from the dependencies, but not movements of troops.

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Chapter 2: Occupations, Wages and Labour Organization

EMPLOYMENT

The distribution of manual workers employed in the Public Services and in the various industries of the Colony in 1959 is given in the table below:—

	Men	*Women*	*Juveniles*	*Total*
(*a*) *Public Services*—				
Government Departments ...	10,107	452	104	10,663
Town Councils	1,058	44	50	1,152
TOTAL ...	11,165	496	154	11,815
(*b*) *Sugar Industry*	41,228	13,587	2,633	57,448
(*c*) *Other Industries*—				
Aerated Mineralss	163	54	5	222
Aloe Fibre...	426	732	74	1,232
Bakeries	575	—	—	575
Building Contractors	2,931	—	24	2,955
Bus Coach Builders	90	—	61	151
Cigarette Factories	144	149	—	293
Compounders	58	12	—	70
Distilleries	71	1	5	77
Docks	1,105	11	15	1,131
Electricity	690	2	17	709
Jewelleries	313	—	96	409
Lime Kilns	325	231	—	556
Match Factories	6	10	4	20
Oil Industry	35	—	9	44
Printing Establishments... ...	245	—	55	300
Sack Factory	185	155	—	340
Salt Pans	83	54	5	142
Saw Mills	302	—	—	302
Shoe-making	238	49	140	427
Stevedoring Companies	1,013	—	—	1,013
Sugar Planters' Mechanical Pool	151	--	2	153
Tanneries	39	2	—	41
Tea Industry	1,143	633	227	2,003
Tobacco	769	1,238	207	2,214
Wine Factories	192	151	9	352
Workshops (Motor)	558	—	254	814
Workshops (Other)	657	2	67	726
TOTAL	12,507	3,486	1,276	17,269
GRAND TOTAL ...	64,900	17,569	4,063	86,532

In order to reckon the total number of persons economically active in the Colony, one would have to add self-employed persons, of whom there are many, small 'planters' or 'farmers' and domestic servants not shown in the above table. The survey carried out by Mr. Luce, C.B., M.B.E., showed that there were a total of 174,000 persons economically active in the Colony.

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The main industry of the Island is the growing of sugar as a plantation crop. The seasonal variation of employment between the harvest, or ' crop ' season, from July to December, and the inter-crop season is shown in the following table: —

	Average inter-crop		*Average crop*	
Artisans and drivers ...		4,525		4,379
Sirdars and labourers:—				
Males	31,372		42,180	
Females	12,045		15,129	
Juveniles	2,566		2,700	
		45,983		60,009
		50,508		64,388

Other important agricultural industries are the growing and processing of aloe fibre, tea and tobacco, and the cultivation of vegetables. These industries provide employment for some 6,173 skilled workers, 6,335 unskilled men, 3,486 women and 1,275 juveniles.

The total number of persons employed in industries and the public services was 86,532, of whom 13,296 were skilled workers, 51,605 unskilled men and 21,631 women and juveniles.

Secondary industries include fishing, sack-making (from locally produced aloe fibre) automobile repair and other engineering works, furniture manufacture, match manufacture, the tanning of hides and skins, boot, shoe and clothing manufacture and printing.

Minor industries and occupations include sawmills, salt pans, lime kilns, charcoal burning, and the rearing of milch cows and other livestock on a small scale.

The number of persons registered as unemployed at the Employment Registration Bureau and the number of workers placed during the year 1959 was as follows: —

	Unemployed persons	*Placings*
January	3,071	435
February	2,878	85
March	2,632	209
April	3,071	162
May	2,992	136
June	3,397	205
July	5,008	157
August	4,640	81
September	3,637	245
October	3,232	144
November	3,045	160
December	2,543	154

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Wages and Hours of Work

The average weekly earnings and the average number of hours worked in the principal industries are shown in the following table:—

Industry	*Category of workers*	*Average weekly earnings*	*No. of hrs worked per week*
		Rs. c.	
1. Sugar ...	Artisans	56 92	45
	Drivers	40 57	45
	Sirdars	32 23	45
	Labourers: Men (Grade I) ...	31 59	37
	Men (Grade II) ..	21 66	33
	Women	15 48	32
	Juveniles	12 09	35
2. Aloe fibre ...	Artisans and drivers	35 28	48
	Factory workers (scrapers) ...	30 25	48
3. Bakeries ...	Brigadiers	51 15	60 to 72
	Coupeurs	48 62	60 to 72
	Petrisseurs	36 96	60 to 72
4. Tea ...	Factory workers (artisans) ...	37 50	48
	Labourers (field)	26 40	48

The daily wage rates and weekly hours of work of manual workers in the public sevices were as follows:—

	Maximum wages	*Minimum wages*	*No. of hrs. worked per week*
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	
Foremen	13 10	9 90	45
Artisans	9 90	6 40	45
Hospital servants ...	7 20	5 80	45
Labourers	5 29	4 20	45

Most Government departments work from 9 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. on weekdays with a half-hour break for lunch, and from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. Others have adopted the five-day week, and work from 8.45 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a half-hour break. Business offices follow more or less the same practice.

Cost of Living

The Labour Department's Cost of Living Index figures* for agricultural labourers in the year 1959, were:—

January ...	148·3	July ...	146·9
February	148·3	August ...	148·0
March ...	147·3	September	148·7
April ..	147·5	October ...	147·4
May ...	147·5	November	147·0
June ...	147·3	December	146·8

* Base 1916 = 100

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The Labour Department

The Labour Department can trace some link in the past with the Office of the Protector of Slaves, for that office was succeeded by the Bureau of the Protector of Immigrants and, when immigration had ceased, the Poor Law Commissioner occupied the building and also administered the Immigration Law. This law was thoroughly revised in 1878, again in 1922, and again in 1938. The same year an Ordinance legalised the existence of industrial associations and the Director of Labour was given certain powers for regulating the settlement of industrial disputes. The Labour Ordinance (Cap. 214) provides for the appointment of a Director of Labour and staff in order to " perform all duties imposed and exercise all powers conferred " on him by this Ordinance. The title of Director of Labour was later changed to that of Labour Commissioner.

The functions of the Department include the uniform administration of legislation relating to labour. By this means too, effect is given to the International Labour Conventions which have been applied to the Colony, the provisions of which have been incorporated in appropriate legislation and administrative instructions. Frequent inspections of places of work including factories are carried out, and camps in which workers are housed are similarly inspected. When necessary, proceedings are taken against alleged offenders in the Industrial Court.

Other duties include advice to employers and workers in matters relating to employment, assistance and advice to trade unions in the conduct of their affairs, promotion of the settlement of trade disputes through conciliation or other appropriate means, the maintenance of an Employment Exchange service, and the collection of statistics relating to labour.

The Department is organised into:—

The Headquarters, under the Labour Commissioner and the Deputy Labour Commissioner.

The Field Inspectorate under two Assistant Labour Commissioners.

The Factory Inspectorate, under a Factory Inspector*.

The Employment Exchange, under a Manager.

The Registrar of Associations is also a member of the Staff of the Labour Department, and deals with the registration of trade unions, associations and superannuation funds, as legally

* Not in post during 1959.

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empowered under the Trade Union Ordinance (No. 36 of 1954), the Registration of Associations Ordinance (No. 45 of 1949) and the Employees Superannuation Fund Ordinance (No. 28 of 1954) respectively.

Trade Unions

There were at the end of June, 1959, 66 trade unions consisting of 30 associations of employees, 8 of employers, 25 of Government servants and 3 of persons either working for themselves or hiring out their services. The total membership on the rolls was 27,149 of which 25,602 were compliance members.

The larger workers' trade unions are:—

The Amalgamated Labourers' Association (now the Plantation Workers' Union) (compliance members 6,764),

The Agricultural Workers' Union (compliance members 4,171),

The Government and Other Manual Workers' Union (compliance members 3,845),

The Government Servants' and Other Employees' Association (compliance members 1,573),

The General Port and Harbour Workers' Union (compliance members 1,165),

The Artisans and General Workers' Union (compliance members 1,150),

The Government General Employees' Union (compliance members 1,025).

The larger employers' trade unions are:—

The Mauritius Tobacco Producers' Syndicate (compliance members 55),

The Mauritius Cane Growers' Association (compliance members 42),

The Jewellers' Association (compliance members 24),

The Mauritius Sugar Producers' Association (compliance members 22).

Labour Disputes and Settlements

Labour disputes involving stoppages of work were settled as follows:—

Industry	*Employer*	*Method of Settlement*
(i) Agriculture ...	Sugar Planters Mechanical Pool ...	Arbitration
(ii) Manufacturing ...	Government Sack Factory ...	Board of Inquiry
(iii) Manufacturing ...	Forges Tardieu Ltd.	Agreement
(iv) Services ...	Town Council of Curepipe ...	Agreement

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Other major disputes were settled as follows:—

Industry	*Employer*	*Method of Settlement*
(v) Agriculture ...	Sugar Producers' Association ...	Arbitration
(vi) Laundry ...	Dry Cleaning and Steam Laundry...	Agreement
(vii) Road Passenger Transport	Mauritius Federation of Transport...	Arbitration

Social Security

Compensation is payable to injured workmen in accordance with the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance (Cap. 220, as subsequently amended).

All monthly employed workers aged eighteen years or over engaged in the sugar industry contribute to the Sugar Industry Pension Fund, set up under Ordinance No. 42 of 1955.

Industrial Training

The Apprenticeship Ordinance (No. 13 of 1946) governs contracts of apprenticeship. So far two industries have been designated under it, viz., ' that branch of trade in the engineering industry actually engaged in the manufacture and repair of machinery ' and ' that branch of trade in the automobile repairs industry actually engaged in the repair and maintenance of automobile machinery '. Legal ' Provisions ' have been promulgated under the Ordinance for the control of apprenticeship in these two trades, and Apprenticeship Committees have been set up.

A Technical Institute run by the Education Department commenced to operate in temporary accommodation in February 1959.

Factories

The total number of registered factories on 31st December, 1959, was 503, including 24 sugar factories.

Legislation

The main body of labour legislation is contained in the following substantive enactments and their related subsidiary legislation:

The Boilers Ordinance	Cap. 209
The Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Ordinance	Cap. 211
The Labour Ordinance	Cap. 214
The Recruitment of Workers Ordinance	Cap. 218
The Safety of Dockers Ordinance	Cap. 219
The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance	Cap. 220
The Apprenticeship Ordinance	No. 13 of 1946
The Factories Ordinance	No. 42 of 1946
The Employment Exchange Ordinance	No. 67 of 1947
The Minimum Wages Ordinance	No. 36 of 1950
The Trade Union Ordinance	No. 36 of 1954
The Trade Disputes Ordinance	No. 37 of 1954

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The following Government Notices affecting labour were published during 1959: —

No. 13 of 1959—Wages Regulation (Printing Trade) Order, 1959

No. 15 of 1959—Wages Regulation (Shopping Trade) (Amendment) Order, 1959

No. 41 of 1959—Minimum Wages (Workers in the Building Industry) Advisory Board Order, 1959

No. 42 of 1959—Minimum Wages (Workers in the Tea Industry) Advisory Board Order, 1959

The following General Notices affecting labour were published during 1959: —

No. 324 of 1959—Holidays in 1959—(The Public Holidays Ordinance — Cap. 297 — as subsequently amended)

No. 880 of 1959—Agreement between the Artisans' and General Workers' Union and the Dry Cleaning and Steam Laundry Limited

No. 918 of 1959—Report and Award of Arbitration Tribunal appointed to deal with a Trade Dispute between the Mauritius Sugar Producers' Association and the Artisans' and General Workers' Union.

No. 919 of 1959—Report and Award of Arbitration Tribunal appointed to deal with a Trade Dispute between the Mauritius Sugar Producers' Association and the Amalgamated labourers' Association (now the Plantation Workers' Union)

No. 958 of 1959—Agreement between the Government and Other Manual Workers' Union and the Government Sack Factory

No. 1301 of 1959—Delegation of Powers to Officers of the Labour Department.

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Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

Revenue and Expenditure

The following tables give a comparison under the main heads of revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the years ended 30th June, 1939, 1958, and 1959.

Current Revenue

Main Head	*Year ended 30th June*		
	1939	*1958*	*1959*
	Rs	*Rs*	*Rs*
I. Direct Taxes	1,036,451	49,199,105	49,310,756
II. Indirect Taxes	11,411,317	58,327,445	63,324,799
III. Receipts from Public Utilities ...	1,390,767	11,648,146	7,216,250
IV. Receipts from Public Services ...	1,082,113	6,696,268	4,672,755
V. Rental of Government Property...	229,221	1,039,434	869,333
IV. Interest and Royalties	486,474	4,591,731	3,625,881
TOTAL ...	15,636,343	131,502,129	129,019,774

Capital Revenue

L. Transfer from Recurrent Budget	—	—	6,500,000
LI. Transfer from Revenue Reserve Fund	—	—	1,796,145
LII. Capital Receipts, Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes	15,858	840,701	967,439
LIII. Capital Receipts, sale of Government Properties	329	20,222	24,972
LIV. Tax Reserve Certificates	—	—	—
LV. Loans or Advances pending Loans	—	—	—
LVI. Miscellaneous, including Grants...	—	—	328,246
LX. Interest on Investments	—	—	1,119,073
Repayment of Loans and Advances	2,198,308	1,149,342	—
TOTAL ...	2,214,495	2,010,265	10,735,875

Current Expenditure

Main Vote	*Year ended 30th June*		
	1939	*1957*	*1958*
	Rs	Rs	Rs
1—1. Governor	82,659	210,395	241,371
2. Judicial	402,390	1,483,154	1,341,690
3. Legislature	12,889	693,134	393,345
4. Office of the Attorney General	99,564	258,039	281,551
5. Audit	79,185	310,834	314,277
6. Public Service Commission ...	—	—	160,961
7. Office of the Colonial Secretary	88,893	3,048,817	1,517,280
Carried forward ...	765,580	6,004,373	4,250,475

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Main Vote	Year ended 30th June 1939	1957	1958
	Rs	Rs	Rs
Brought forward ...	765,580	6,004,373	4,250,475
8. Defence	935,903	1,845,864	1,808,266
9. District Administration ...	—	342,344	237,701
10. Fire Services	—	974,891	928,959
11. Local Government	—	1,474,961	3,395,416
12. Mauritius Broadcasting Service and Globe Reuter News Service	—	443,805	477,628
13. Police	970,903	7,461,106	7,136,271
14. Ecclesiastical	211,914	459,386	373,283
15. Rodrigues	—	—	2,134,814
16. Central Information Service ...	—	—	105,446
2—1. Office of the Ministry of Finance	—	—	3,066,397
2. Accountant General	197,112	630,138	5,168,474
2a. Miscellaneous	1,107,217	4,053,232	—
3. Central Statistical Office ...	—	232,832	198,045
4. Customs and Excise	—	1,701,296	1,901,643
4a. Customs, Harbour, Port and Marine	613,206	—	—
5. Income Tax	—	580,065	512,912
6. Public Debt	2,292,014	6,458,481	6,574,732
7. Public Service Pensions ...	1,695,428	5,901,003	8,038,487
8. Registrar General	113,897	355,082	325,012
9. Granary	79,421	315,859	299,109
10. Contributions	—	15,694,364	7,048,277
3—1. Office of the Minister of Agriculture and Lands	—	—	109,411
2. Agriculture	542,286	3,754,865	3,673,976
3. Forests	203,331	2,497,449	2,614,724
4—1. Office of the Minister of Works and Communications ...	—	—	114,652
2. Architectural	—	260,913	295,229
3. Civil Aviation	—	460,419	476,068
4. Harbour and Quays	—	1,364,967	1,249,037
5. Observatory	41,543	394,828	364,600
6. Posts and Telegraphs	322,521	1,963,603	1,873,663
7. Printing Office	107,772	750,540	723,966
8. Public Works and Surveys Establishment	340,007	2,273,660	4,498,377
4—9. Public Works Annually Recurrent	1,039,379	6,829,483	6,557,646
10. Railways	765,444	5,980,288	1,499,325
11. Telecommunications	178,248	1,944,552	2,479,064
12. Road Traffic Licensing Authority	—	—	172,653
Carried forward ...	12,523,126	83,404,649	76,433,263

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Main Vote	Year ended 30th June 1939 Rs	1957 Rs	1958 Rs
Brought forward ...	12,523,126	83,404,649	76,433,263
5—1. Office of the Minister of Education and Institutions ...	—	—	74,756
2. Archives	—	103,633	94,172
3. Education	1,441,412	18,596,750	18,337,382
4. Mauritius Institute	17,115	128,197	129,362
6—1. Office of the Minister of Health and Social Services	—	—	85,014
2. Health	1,477,202	13,296,099	14,566,556
3. Prisons and Industrial School	178,741	1,629,584	1,547,432
4 Public Assistance	—	13,908,038	15,569,752
5. Social Welfare	—	616,427	486,534
7—1. Office of the Minister of Labour	—	—	113,262
2. Labour	770,307	587,097	513,838
3. Co-operative Societies	—	251,056	173,872
8—1. Ministers without Portfolio ...	—	—	43,541
9—1. Office of the Minister of Works and Tourism	—	—	88,014
10—1. Office of the Minister of Local Government and Co-operative Development	—	—	8,689
11—1. Office of the Minister of Housing, Lands and Town and Country Planning ...	—	—	8,848
TOTAL	16,407,903	132,521,530	132,524,762
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE			
20. Public Works Non-Recurrent ...	228,204	—	12,396,643
21. Other Works	—	—	2,565,949
22. Other Capital Expenditure ...	—	—	13,644,292
24. Reserve for New Projects	—	—	—
25. Redemption of Loans	—	—	435
TOTAL	228,204	—	28,607,319
DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE	7,364,832	—	—
TOTAL EXPENDITURE ...	24,000,939	132,521,530	161,132,081

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PUBLIC DEBT

The Public Debt of the Colony on the 30th June, 1959, was Rs 97,488,590. Against this liability there was an accumulated Sinking Fund of Rs 14,231,970.

Local loan issues accounted for Rs 23,837,500 of the Public Debt as detailed below:—

	Rs
Agricultural Loan (No. 1) 1937	1,500,000
Agricultural Loan (No. 2) 1937	1,600,000
Mauritius Loan 1961	3,157,500
Mauritius Development and Welfare Loan 1971–81 ...	3,072,000
Development (General Purposes) Loan 1964–74	14,448,000
TOTAL ...	23,837,500

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

(omitting Special Funds deposited in the Public Treasury)

LIABILITIES	*Rs*	ASSETS	*Rs*	*Rs*
Other Governments ...	30,762	Advances		15,205,181
Deposits	4,979,891	Cash Balance etc.	18,097,722	
General Revenue Balance	30,647,355	Investments ...	26,438,099	
		Revenue Reserve Fund... ...	14,740,894	
			59,296,715	
Capital Fund	26,110,281	Deduct: Balances of Special Funds etc. in the hands of the Accountant General ...	5,219,562	
				54,077,153
Consolidated Sinking Fund. Special Deposit	1,508,045			
TOTAL ...	69,282,334	TOTAL ...		69,282,334

THE MAIN HEADS OF TAXATION AND THEIR YIELDS

	1957–58	*1958–59*
	Rs	*Rs*
Customs :—		
Import Duties...	31,247,955	34,233,516
Export Duties...	78,887	76,122
Excise duty on Rum	10,262,290	11,479,748
Tobacco Excise	5,050,855	5,444,937
Licence Duties	5,268,391	5,495,655
Income Tax, (Companies and Bodies Corporate)	29,767,753	28,500,484
Income Tax (Others)	17,562,173	18,834,453
Tax on Sweepstakes and Lotteries ...	1,462,658	1,443,384

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THE GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT FOR 1958 WAS CALCULATED BY THE CENTRAL STATISTICAL OFFICE TO BE Rs 666,000,000

Details of calculation are as follows :—

Gross National Product Industrial Origin	*Rs (millions)*	%
1. Agriculture, forestry, hunting, and fishing ...	200	30·0
2. Mining and Quarrying..	—	—
3. Manufacturing	138	20·7
4. Construction	30	4·5
5. Electricity, water and sanitary services ...	11	1·7
6. Transportation, Storage and Communication ...	82	12·3
7. Wholesale and Retail Trade	65	9·8
8. Banking, Insurance and Real Estate	10	1·5
9. Ownership of dwellings	45	6·7
10. Public Administration and Defence	19	2·9
11. Services	62	9·3
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT AT FACTOR COST ...	662	99·4
Plus Net factor income from the rest of the world	+ 4	+ 0·6
GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT AT FACTOR COST..	666	100·0

National Income and Depreciation	*Rs (Millions)*	%
1. Compensation of employees	329	49·4
2. Income from farms, professions and other unincorporated enterprises received by households	131	19·7
3. Income from property received by households and private non-profit institutions	115	17·3
4. Saving of corporations	52	7·8
5. Direct taxes on corporations	29	4·3
6. General Government income from property and entrepreneurship ...	17	2·5
	673	101·0
Less Interest on public debt	− 4	− 0·6
Less Interest on consumers' debt	− 3	− 0·4
NATIONAL INCOME AND DEPRECIATION	666	100·0

Gross National Expenditure Composition	*Rs (millions)*	%
1. Private consumption expenditure on goods and services	537	80·7
2. General Government consumption expenditure on goods and services	100	15·0
3. Gross domestic fixed capital formation of private enterprises ...	90	13·5
4. Gross domestic fixed capital formation of Government and public enterprises	23	3·5
5. Net exports of goods and services	− 29	− 4·4
6. Net factor income payments from rest of the world	+ 4	+ 0·6
GROSS NATIONAL EXPENDITURE AT MARKET PRICES...	725	108·9
Less Indirect Taxes ...	− 61	− 9·2
Plus Subsidies	+ 2	+ 0·3
NET NATIONAL EXPENDITURE AT FACTOR COST	666	100·0

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COMPARATIVE FIGURES OF GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT GROWTH

Year	*Gross National Income Rs million*	*Increase on 1950 per cent*	*Resident population June 30th in each year*	** Actual per capita income Rs*	*Real per capita income Rs*	*Increase or decrease per cent*
1950 ...	425	—	466,052	912	912	—
1951 ...	482	13	483,859	996	940	+3·1
1952 ...	536	26	502,075	1,068	883	−6·1
1953 ...	604	42	516,525	1,169	950	+7·6
1954 ...	599	41	530,461	1,129	925	−2·6
1955 ...	618	45	549,094	1,125	915	−1·1
1956 ...	647	52	568,886	1,137	903	−1·3
1957 ...	662	56	587,018	1,128	868	−3·9
1958 ...	666	57	603,466	1,104	836	−3·7

CUSTOMS TARIFF

The present tariff, which was brought into force by the Customs Tariff Ordinance (No. 26 of 1954), is based on the Standard International Trade Classification. The first schedule to this tariff comprises three main sections: import duties, exemptions, and export duties. Provision is made for the imposition of a preferential tariff on goods produced or manufactured in the United Kingdom and certain other territories, but admission of the goods to preference is dependent on the production of supporting evidence including prescribed certificates of origin and value. In the absence of this information, the general tariff rate is charged.

Export duties are levied on sugar and molasses, and in addition there are small duties imposed on goods exported from bond, goods in transit, and goods reshipped after being landed from distressed vessels.

PACKAGE TAX

A package tax is levied under the Package Tax Ordinance (No. 32 of 1951) on all goods shown in the first schedule thereof, imported and landed at any port in the Colony. This tax is levied at variable low rates.

Exemptions are provided for in the second schedule to the Ordinance.

EXCISE DUTIES

Excise duties are leviable on Colonial spirits (rum), country liquor (Mauritius Fruit Wine), tobacco, matches, spirits used in the manufacture of denatured spirits (except for power purposes), vine-

*i.e. income reduced to constant prices (1950).

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gar, tinctures and drugs, and perfumed spirits. The consumption of rum during the year showed a small increase over the previous year. The revenue collected in respect of country liquor showed a fair increase over the figure for the previous year.

Stamp Duties

Stamp duties are of three kinds:

Schedule " A " to the Stamps Ordinance (Cap. 160), specifies the instruments or writings which are subject to a duty in porportion to the size of paper used. The tariff ranges from 30 cents to Rs 1.80.

Schedule " B " specifies the instruments or writings which are subject to a fixed stamp duty. The amounts vary from 10 cents to Rs 18.

Schedule " C " specifies the instruments or writings which are subject to an *ad valorem* duty. These include Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes, Policies of Insurance, Debentures. The duties are mainly on a sliding scale.

The Stamp Duties collected in respect of impressed paper during the financial year 1958–59 amounted to Rs 657,345.

Income Tax

Income Tax is imposed by the provisions of the Income Tax Ordinance, 1950, as subsequently amended.

Various deductions, including capital allowances, are provided by the Ordinance and in the case of individuals, the chargeable income is arrived at after deducting personal reliefs and allowances.

The following schedule shows the rates of tax payable by individuals:

	Chargeable Income Rs		*Rate of Tax* %
For every rupee of the first	5,000	...	10
For every rupee of the next	5,000	...	15
do. do.	5,000	...	20
do. do.	5,000	...	30
do. do.	5,000	...	40
do. do.	10,000	...	50
do. do.	15,000	...	60
Remainder of the chargeable income		...	70

The rate of tax applicable to companies is 40 per cent of the amount of chargeable income.

Collections in the year 1958–59 amounted to Rs 47,334,937 as compared with Rs 47,329,926 in 1957–58.

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Death Duty

Duty is payable on the value of the property accruing to each beneficiary at a rate dependent upon the degree of relationship to the deceased and the net value of such property, without aggregation of the whole estate.

The duty collected during 1959 amounted to Rs 927,751.05 as compared with Rs 734,013.23 in 1958.

Local Authorities Finances

The undermentioned table gives comparative figures of revenue and expenditure of the four urban local authorities for the last financial year:—

Local Authority	*Financial Year*	*Revenue Rs*	*Expenditure Rs*
Municipality of Port Louis (excluding Housing Scheme)	1959	4,127,202	4,214,026
Town Council of Beau Bassin—Rose Hill (excluding Housing Scheme) ...	1958-59	1,387,375	1,318,687
Town Council of Quatre Bornes (excluding Housing Scheme) ...	1958-59	729,158	619,178
Town Council of Curepipe (excluding Housing Scheme)	1958-59	1,353,658	1,216,489

District and Village Councils

The three District Councils established under Ordinance No. 76 of 1951 and the District Administration for Plaines Wilhems—Black River which started functioning in September, 1955, receive subsidies and grants from the Government which are partly allocated to the Village Councils, according to estimates approved by the District Councils and the District Administration. In addition to any taxation which may be imposed by the Village Councils, the District Councils have the right to levy taxes which do not apply to any particular village, such as advertisement and placard tax and entertainment tax. The total estimates of expenditure for the existing 108 Village Councils amounted to approximately Rs 658,898. Administration, including subsidies for scavenging and roads, totalled Rs 739,755. Revenue from entertainment tax totalled Rs 77,835.

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Chapter 4: Currency and Banking

Currency

The local unit of currency is the Mauritius Rupee, which is sub-divided into 100 cents. The rupee is equivalent to 1s. 6d. sterling.

The notes in circulation are of denominations of Rs 25, Rs 10 and Rs 5. There is in addition a Rs 1,000 note which is legal tender only between the local banks and the Government.

The coins in circulation are the following:

Cupro-Nickel: One Rupee, Half-Rupee, Quarter-Rupee and Ten Cents.

Bronze: 5 Cents, 2 Cents and 1 Cent.

The value of currency in circulation on the 30th June for the last three financial years is given hereunder:

	1957 *Rs*	*1958* *Rs*	*1959* *Rs*
Notes	52,890,000	57,530,000	61,235,000
Coins	3,667,000	3,848,000	4,243,000
TOTAL ...	56,557,000	61,378,000	65,478,000

Local Banks

Three trading banks operate in Mauritius: The Mauritius Commercial Bank Ltd., The Mercantile Bank Ltd. and Barclays Bank D.C.O.

Savings bank facilities are provided by the Post Office Savings Bank, The Mauritius Agricultural Bank, The Mauritius Commercial Bank Ltd., Barclays Bank D.C.O. and The Mercantile Bank Ltd.

Long-term loans for agricultural and housing purposes are provided by the Mauritius Agricultural Bank, while Barclays Overseas Development Corporation Limited undertakes medium-term finance on a commercial basis. There is, however, a lack of financial institutions specialising in long-term loans to individual borrowers for such purposes as housing, although loans against mortgages are obtainable from private sources. The Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank Ltd. provides finance on a seasonal basis for the cultivation requirements of the co-operative credit movement. The Government also provides assistance to local industry in the form of medium-term loans.

The Mauritius Commercial Bank was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1838 with a capital of Rs 2,000,000, which was increased to Rs 3,000,000 in 1948 and to 4,000,000 in 1958. The Bank was registered as a limited liability company in August, 1955. The

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Bank's head office is in Port Louis with branches at Curepipe, Rose Hill, Mahebourg, Quatre Bornes, Centre de Flacq and Triolet. Its London Agents are Lloyds Bank Limited. It has correspondents all over the world and is able to offer a complete banking service. The reserves at the 31st December, 1959, stood at Rs 4,817,761.

The Mercantile Bank Limited, formerly The Mercantile Bank of India Limited, took over the business of the Bank of Mauritius Limited on the 31st May, 1916. The paid-up Capital of the Bank at the 31st December, 1959, was £2,940,000. Reserve funds and unappropriated profits amounted to £2,431,879. Through its Head Office in London and its branches throughout India, Pakistan, Ceylon, Burma, Thailand, Malaya and the Far East, and Correspondents throughout the rest of the world, Mercantile Bank Limited is able to offer comprehensive banking facilities to the people of Mauritius.

Barclays Bank D.C.O. has its Head Office in London, and over 1,100 branches in Africa, the Mediterranean area, the Carribean area, England, New York and Hamburg, with correspondents in all other important centres. A branch of the Bank was opened at Mahé, Seychelles in 1959. The paid-up capital of the Bank was £12,932,250 as at the 30th September, 1959, and the Reserve Fund was £10,500,000. The Bank, which is affiliated with Barclays Band Ltd., was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1836 as the Colonial Bank and re-incorporated by Act of Parliament in 1925; the name was then changed to Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) which amalgamated with the Anglo-Egyptian Bank Ltd. and the National Bank of South Africa Ltd. The Port Louis, Mauritius, branch was established by the last-named Bank in December, 1919, and was taken over by Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) following the amalgamation. The name of the Bank was changed to Barclays Bank D.C.O. in 1954. There are also branches of the Bank at Curepipe, Rose Hill, Vacoas, Centre de Flacq, Rivière des Anguilles, and Rose Belle. In July, 1959, another branch of the Bank was opened in Port Louis at Dumat Street.The Bank acts as Agent for Barclays Overseas Development Corporation Ltd., which was formed to assist in the economic development of territories in which the Bank operates and which had a paid-up capital of £6,000,000 on the 30th September, 1959.

Post Office Savings Bank

The Post Office Savings Bank is operated by the Posts and Telegraphs Department. At the 30th June, 1959, the Bank had 74,122 active accounts and 2,088 dormant accounts with a balance

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due to depositors of Rs 30,788,954. Savings Bank business is transacted at 31 Post Offices. During 1959 transactions amounted in number and value to 58,429 deposits, totalling Rs 15,976,471 and 52,289 withdrawals, totalling Rs 14,279,927. Accounts are regarded as dormant if no transaction takes place for a period of twenty years.

The Mauritius Agricultural Bank

The Mauritius Agricultural Bank was established by Ordinance No. 1 of 1936 as a " body corporate having perpetual succession and a common seal . . . for the purpose of making long-term loans for agricultural needs ". It started its activities in 1937 with a capital of Rs 10,000,000 which was raised by loans, locally and overseas, by Government. Of this amount Rs 456,000 has been reimbursed by the Bank which had also contributed at the 31st December, 1959, Rs 1,548,960 to a sinking fund.

The first change in the constitution of the Bank occurred in 1940 when the minimum for loans (which had been Rs 5,000) was abolished and the Bank was authorised to draw Bills on the Treasury to finance loans for amounts under Rs 5,000.

The Mauritius Economic Commission (1948) recommended that the Bank's capital be increased and the scope of its activities extended to meet the needs of industrial as well as agricultural enterprises. Legislation was passed to this effect and to authorise the Bank to make long-term loans for housing (Ordinance No. 68 of 1950).

In 1949 the Bank was authorised to raise Rs 3,000,000 from the public by the sale of short-term bills. By Ordinance No. 68 of 1950 it was further empowered:

(a) to raise funds from the public by the issue of long-term debentures, by the issue of subscription debentures payable monthly and quarterly, and by accepting fixed deposits for 12–36 months and saving deposits;

(b) to arrange long-term loans and bank overdrafts.

One of the objects of authorising the Bank to raise funds from the public was to encourage saving in the Colony and it was hoped that the wide choice of investments would prove attractive. At the 31st December, 1959, there were:

2,480 Savings Accounts for Rs 2,123,235

267 Fixed Deposit Accounts for Rs 1,920,495

211 Accounts for Subscription Debentures for Rs 227,714.

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At the 31st December, 1959, the Bank had paid out Rs 59,990,932 in loans as follows:

	Rs
For agriculture	44,701,250
For housing	14,209,927
For industry	1,079,755
TOTAL ...	59,990,932

The Bank has been entrusted with the management of the loans granted under the Hurricane Loan Ordinance (1945), the Rehabilitation of Factories and Rolling Stock Ordinance (1948), and the Aloe Fibre Industry (Development) Ordinance (1952). The total amount due by borrowers at the 31st December, 1959, was Rs 46,636,437, of which Rs 36,831,337 consisted of Agricultural Bank loans proper (including Rs 10,011,189 for housing loans), Rs 7,113,316 due by borrowers under the Hurricane Loan Ordinance, Rs 2,555,509 due by borrowers under the Rehabilitation of Factories and Rolling Stock Ordinance, and Rs 136,275 due by borrowers under the Aloe Fibre Industry (Development) Ordinance. The demand for loans since 1950 has been far in excess of the resources of the Bank.

The following is a summary of the Bank's balance sheet as at the 31st December, 1959.

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
	Rs		*Rs*
Mauritius Government ...	10,519,000	Loans	36,831,337
Debentures and Sub-Debentures	17,227,714	Cash	665,573
Deposits	7,043,730	Investments	1,421,191
Short-term Bills	2,824,750	Other Assets	2,166,444
Internal A/cs and other liabilities	407,932	Sinking Fund Contributions	1,548,960
Sinking Fund	1,548,960		42,633,505
Reserve and Profit and Loss A/c	3,061,419		
	42,633,505	Hurricane Loan 1945 ...	7,113,316
Funds administered on behalf of the Colonial Government	9,805,100	Rehabilitation Loans ...	2,555,509
		Aloe Fibre Industry Loans	136,275
TOTAL ...	52,438,605		52,438,605

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BANKING STATISTICS

NUMBER OF REPORTING BANKS: 3

Figures for quarter ended 31st December, 1959

LIABILITIES	,000 Rs	ASSETS	,000 Rs
1. Notes in circulation ...	—	1. Cash	7,205
		2. Balances due by other banks in the Colony ...	7,113
2. Deposits :—		3. Balances due from banks abroad	54,414
(1) Demand	114,966	4. Loans and advances:—	
(2) Time	5,059	(1) Primary production (including processing of primary products) ...	25,891
(3) Savings	10,544	(2) Other industries (including Commerce, Transport and Distribution)	30,932
3. Balances due to :—		(3) Other advances ...	9,711
(1) Other banks in the Colony	2,644	5. Investment:—	
(2) Banks abroad ...	1,958	*(a)* Local	5,541
		(b) Other	2,000
4. Other Liabilities, etc. ...	51,111	6. Other Assets	43,475
TOTAL LIABILITIES ...	186,282	TOTAL ASSETS ...	186,282

BANK RATES

The buying and selling rates for telegraphic transfers were at the end of 1959, roughly as under:—

	Buying	*Selling*
BRITISH STERLING		
Under £5,000 ...	Rs 13.25 per £1 ...	Rs 13.43 per £1
£5,000 and over ...	Rs 13.26 ,, ...	Rs 13.40 ,,
CANADIAN DOLLARS ...	Rs 4.95 per $1	Rs 5.05 per $1
U.S.A. DOLLARS	Rs 4.72½ per $1 ...	Rs 4.82 per $1
SOUTH AFRICAN POUNDS		
Under £5,000 ...	Rs 13.20 per £1 ...	Rs 13.45 per £1
£5,000 and over ...	Rs 13.20 ,, ...	Rs 13.42 ,,
AUSTRALIAN POUNDS ...	Rs 10.50 per £1 ...	Rs 10.85 per £1
FRENCH FRANCS		
France	Rs 0.94 per 100 francs ...	Rs 0.99 per 100 francs
C.F.A.	Rs 1.88 per 100 francs ...	Rs 1.98 ,,
OTHER CURRENCIES		
India and Pakistan ...	At par	1% premium
East Africa	Rs 66.50 per 100 shs ...	Rs 67.15 per 100 shs.

The control of foreign exchange was maintained in 1959 under the Mauritius Exchange Control Ordinance, 1951, which was enacted on the lines of the United Kingdom Exchange Control Act, 1947, and thus ensures similarity of practice in exchange control matters in the Scheduled Territories.

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Chapter 5 : Commerce

The Commerce of the Colony depends almost entirely on the sugar crop which in 1959 yielded 579,841* metric tons as compared with 525,648 metric tons in 1958. High degree alcohol, a by-product of sugar, is produced mainly for local consumption and the quantity exported in 1959 was negligible. The exportation of molasses, another by-product of sugar, was 59,985 metric tons in 1959, against 59,158 metric tons in 1958 and 72,539 metric tons in 1957. Exports of tea reached 464 metric tons as compared with 352 metric tons in 1958. A small part of the Colony's demand for foodstuffs is met by local production, namely meat, sugar, salt, tea, fruit and vegetables, fish (fresh and dried) and coconut oil. Local industries produce cigarettes, matches, aloe-fibre bags for sugar, rum and country liquor. The bulk of the needs of the Colony are met by importing from other countries.

Imports of rice, the staple food of the Colony, reached 57,130 metric tons as compared with 70,481 metric tons in 1958 and 62,080 metric tons in 1957. Wheaten flour was imported mainly from Australia, beef on the hoof from Madagascar, and considerable quantities of foodstuffs from the United Kingdom and the Union of South Africa.

The United Kingdom continues to be the principal source of supply for manufactured goods such as textiles, apparel, machinery, motor vehicles, hardware and electrical goods. Large quantities of cotton piece goods are received from India and large supplies of general merchandise from Hong Kong. Manufactured fertilizers are imported mainly from the United Kingdom, Western Germany and France.

* Provisional

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DIRECTION OF EXPORT TRADE

Preferential Tariff Countries	*1957* Rs	*1958* Rs	*1959* Rs
United Kingdom	231,320,172	234,056,798	229,645,262
Australia and New Zealand ...	443,035	383,843	189,106
British East Africa	937,726	499,245	625,557
Canada	44,168,042	26,601,648	37,525,121
Ceylon	5,347,956	2,056	13,450
Hong Kong	6,186,913	515,676	3,027,113
India	4,964	12,023	33,480
Malaya (including Singapore) ...	1,358,051	3,156,265	1,431,811
Seychelles	552,371	474,043	346,917
Southern Rhodesia	12,018	2,050	17,860
Union of South Africa	284,766	220,072	319,159
Other Preferential Tariff Countries	33,105	34,100	2,274,889
TOTAL ...	290,649,119	265,937,819	275,449,725
General Tariff Countries			
Belgium	838,000	3,149	12,180
France	61,663	199,906	109,151
Germany (Western)	35,029	143,056	79,242
Holland	383,327	1,348,627	1,571,003
Iran	8,760,448	3,414,280	—
Italy	650,377	304,578	2,050
Japan	15,122,156	365,874	755,927
Korea	892,599	—	—
Lebanon	402,560	3,833,384	2,884,321
Madagascar	510,736	609,426	520,271
Morocco	—	4,072,629	50
Portuguese East Africa	51,721	187,600	8,900
Reunion	394,265	498,379	707,908
Syria	4,023,360	—	—
United States of America ...	361,953	585,218	106,208
Other General Tariff Countries ..	47,912	155,306	3,255
TOTAL ...	32,536,106	15,721,412	6,760,466
Sugar Quota Certificates ...	7,104,610	7,221,426	7,424,404
GRAND TOTAL OF EXPORTS ...	330,289,835	288,900,657	289,634,595

DIRECTION OF IMPORT TRADE

Preferential Tariff Countries	*1957* Rs	*1958* Rs	*1959* Rs
United Kingdom	93,618,041	108,138,000	105,579,527
Aden	607,731	44,074	26,642
Australia and New Zealand ...	17,706,636	21,709,575	20,149,602
Bahrein	239,162	480,498	183,190
British East Africa	4,159,177	3,584,917	6,125,062
British West Indies	322,041	250,574	263,727
Burma	35,219,578	30,402,622	28,562,541
Carried over ...	151,872,366	164,610,260	160,890,291

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II.—Exports

	1957	1958	1959
	Rs	Rs	Rs
(a) Domestic Exports	315,672,216	278,082,387	278,177,914
(b) Sugar Quota Certificates ...	7,104,610	7,221,426	7,424,404
(c) Re-Exports	7,513,009	3,596,844	4,032,277
TOTAL ...	330,289,835	288,900,657	289,634,595

Principal Exports	1957 Quantity	1957 F.O.B. Value	1958 Quantity	1958 F.O.B. Value	1959 Quantity	1959 F.O.B. Value	Main Countries of Destination
		Rs		Rs		Rs	
Sugar ...	585,603 M.Tons	307,701,937*	522,752 M.Tons	269,894,312*	512,031 M.Tons	269,506,560	United Kingdom, Canada, Japan, Iran, Lebanon, Morocco, Malaya, Singapore, Hong Kong, Seychelles and Nyasaland.
Molasses ...	72,539 ,,	5,387,852	59,158 ,,	4,875,060	59,985 ,,	4,835,489	United Kingdom, Holland, Belgium, New Zealand, Japan, and United States.
Rum ...	308 Hectols	25,553	131 Hectols	12,881	290 Hectols	26,307	Hong Kong and Seychelles.
Aloe Fibre ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tea ...	441 M.Tons	2,271,899	352 M.Tons	2,347,021	364 M.Tons	2,691,883	United Kingdom, Kenya, United States, Holland, New Zealand, and Union of South Africa.

*Excluding Value of Sugar Quota Certificates.

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Chapter 6 : Production

Land Utilization and Water Conservation

Mauritius covers an area of 460,800 acres of which about 220,000 acres are under cultivation of a very efficient type as compared with many colonial territories. Beyond the crops from this land the Island produces little else with which to meet the requirements of a population numbering about 610,000 at a density of about 840 per square mile. The cultivated area consists mainly of sugarcane (200,000 acres); it does not include either economic forestry, or other tree plantations (19,000 acres). Forests and forest plantations, woodlands, mountain, river and natural reserves and scrub total about 200,000 acres. Built up areas, roads, water bodies and open spaces cover 22,000 acres.

The central and elevated part of the Island, above the 100" isohyet, is mostly covered with forest and scrub land to protect and regulate the water resources. In this area, cultivation, except for tea, is not very conspicuous. No laws specially protecting this natural watershed exist except those giving protection to Mountain and River Reserves.

The main upland water catchment area is mostly Crown property and utilized for the production of forest produce, fuel and fodder, with a limited acreage under tea and other crops. Water resources are mainly dependent on the incidence of nearby cyclonic disturbances bringing rain, most of which falls in the hot season or in the heavy downpours accompanying cyclonic disturbances. Several reservoirs have been constructed in order to hold this water for utilization, both for domestic and irrigation purposes and for the production of electrical energy and further progress in this direction continues.

Land Ownership

In the early days of French colonization, land was conceded to settlers almost all over the Island. Later, land ownership was governed by the French Civil Code or " Code Napoléon ", which is still in force. This provides for equal division of property among the heirs often resulting ultimately, in the case of land, in excessive fragmentation. The demand for land is accentuated by the rapid growth of population, leading to the inflation of land values. Grouping of estates into companies has checked fragmentation for the bulk of the land, although for a time speculation led to a system

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of parcelling known as " morcellement " when large tracts of land were purchased and sold again in numerous small lots.

Land Tenure

The Island was uninhabited when first colonized. Its original permanent settlers were the French who, through the grant of concessions, became the original freehold owners of all the land except Crown Lands. At present, apart from Crown Lands, including Crown forests and the " Pas Géométriques " which total 83,000 acres, the land is owned in large or small lots by all sections of the community. Roughly 70 percent is owned by companies and private estates, the remainder being the property of the Indo-Mauritian section of the population. In addition to freehold tenure, land is also held lease-hold and on share-cropping agreements.

Leasehold tenure is practised to a limited extent on privately-owned lands and on Crown Lands. In the case of Crown Lands, leasing is generally by auction to the highest bidder, but it may also be by contract, leases varying from 3 to 30 years with security of tenure to satisfactory tenants. Various types of share-cropping in the form of " métayage " exist.

Renting System

Rentals are either cash, crop-sharing or " Taungya ". Cash rentals are payable monthly, quarterly or annually; in crop-sharing the proportion of the crop handed over as rental varies according to circumstances and the nature of the crop; under the " Taungya " system, which is adopted in tree plantations, especially in Crown forest areas, the tenant is permitted to grow vegetables or annual crops between the young trees provided he keeps the trees clear of weeds and fills up the gaps. This is a temporary system, as cultivation is discontinued as soon as the trees are developed.

Land and Water Development Programmes

These include provision for:

(a) increased reservoir construction both for domestic and irrigation purposes, the latter leading to increased cultivation of land;

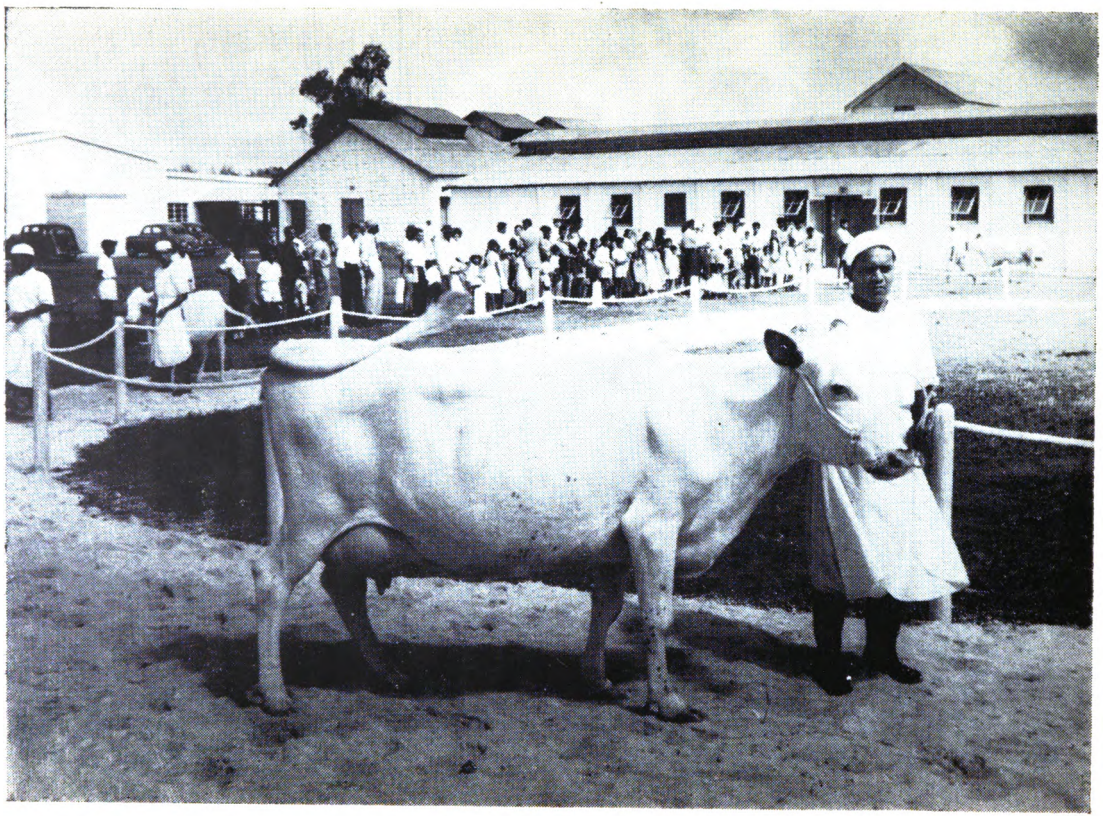
(b) increased generation of electrical power.

Land Settlement

In addition to the 4 already existing Settlements namely Terre Rouge, Richelieu, Petit Sable and Palmar which cover an area of approximately 550 acres and where some 238 tenants have been settled, two other projects have made good progress: At Palmar Extension, 180 arpents of new land have been mechanically worked

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OPEN DAY AT CUREPIPE EXPERIMENTAL STATION

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and divided among 89 tenants in holdings of an average size of 2 arpents; At Plaisance some 150 acres of land have been cleared and divided and will soon be allocated to selected candidates.

Similar progress has been made at *Bée Manique* New Settlement where some 100 acres have been cleared and of which 41 holdings of two acres have been leased to tenants.

AGRICULTURE

Department of Agriculture

At the 31st December, 1959, the permanent and pensionable staff of the Department numbered 272 as follows:—

Division	*In post*	*Vacancies*
Administrative Division	30	1
Agricultural Division	46	1
Tea Division	12	—
Plant Pathology Division	7	2
Entomological Division	5	—
Agricultural Chemistry Division...	7	1
Engineering Division	8	1
Central Board Division	15	1
Agricultural College Division	15	1
Rodrigues Division (attached to Agricultural Division)	19	2
Fisheries Division	63	—
Livestock Division	45	—
TOTAL	272	12

The general policy of the Department of Agriculture is to promote the most efficient use of all available lands suitable for cultivation and to foster the most efficient production of livestock and livestock products. To this end, the primary objective is the training of technical staff for the Department of Agriculture, the Mauritius Sugar Industry Research Institute, the Sugar Industry and the other agricultural interests of the Island. Training is done in the first instance at the College of Agriculture which provides a three year course. For the purposes of the Department of Agriculture a programme of study leave enables local officers to be trained overseas to meet requirements for specialist and senior professional staff.

The second objective is the provision of an Agricultural Extension Service which makes readily available to the farmer assistance and advice and translates into general agricultural practice the information obtained from the experimental stations.

Associated with both the foregoing objectives is the development of experimental stations in each of the major climatic zones of the Colony for the purpose of investigation under competent supervision, of crops, stocks and methods suited to the particular areas,

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The sugar industry is the main source of wealth and employment in the Colony and Government policy is to encourage development of that industry to the limits imposed by overseas markets. The industry has its own Research Institute which covers research in both the field and factory aspects of sugarcane.

The Department of Agriculture, in collaboration with the Sugar Research Institute, undertakes extension work in regard to small planters, having as one of its principal aims the raising of small planters' yields to a figure more comparable with that of the estates. The Department also maintains a plant inspection service to prevent introduction of new pests and diseases, controls the Cane Quarantine Greenhouse and administers the Central Cane Arbitration Board.

The Development of secondary industries has long been an important item of the Department's policy and everything is done to encourage the development of the Tea, Tobacco and Fibre Industries, and small planters are encouraged to produce cash vegetable and food crops. Encouragement of local production of meat and milk within the limits imposed by the restricted availability of land for fodder and pasture is an item of policy which is implemented in several ways, the chief of which are the improvement of the milk breed of cattle characteristic of Mauritius and the maintenance of an island-wide artificial insemination service.

Fisheries policy comprises conservation of the lagoon fisheries, development of off shore fishing and investigation of pond culture of fresh water fish.

The Board of Agriculture, Fisheries and Natural Resources studies all matters of policy and makes recommendations to the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands.

Sugar

Mauritius is naturally best adapted for the production of sugar which is the staple of the Island. The whole of the production, with the exception of some 20,000 tons consumed locally, is exported, mainly to the United Kingdom but Canada is also an important buyer of Mauritian sugar.

Production in the three preceding years was as follows:—

	Metric tons
1956	572,512
1957	562,003
1958	525,648
Annual average ...	533,338

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In 1959 the production of sugar amounted to 579,841 metric tons obtained from an harvested area of about 187,820 acres. The average yield of cane per acre over the whole Island was about 25.26 tons. Sugar extraction was 12.23% compared with 12.14% in 1958. The production of sugar per acre was approximately 3.09 tons, slightly more than the figure of 2.9 tons per acre obtained in 1958.

Although an important proportion of cane lands is under peasant ownership, mostly Indo-Mauritian, the bulk of the sugar is produced on the plantation scale. The larger plantations with factories produced about 59% of the total crop. The smaller peasant owners, some 15,000 of whom cultivate altogether about 19% of the land under cane, often work their land with the assistance of their families, employing extraneous labour at peak times such as at planting and when harvesting. Many of these small planters have grouped themselves into co-operative societies for the purpose of consigning their canes to factories.

The cane was milled in 1959 in 24 factories, most of which are company-owned.

The whole of the sugar produced is marketed by the Mauritius Sugar Syndicate. Since the War the price of Commonwealth sugar has been fixed year by year under the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement. The negotiated price quota exportable under the terms of the Agreement remained at 335,000 long tons whilst the overall exportable quota, which includes the above figure, was fixed at 470,000 long tons. In addition to this overall quota, Mauritius was granted under the International Sugar Agreement a quota of 25,000 long tons in respect of sales to the free market.

The Commonwealth Sugar Agreement has been futher extended and will now run to the end of 1967.

Cane is purchased by factories on the basis of two-thirds of the sugar and by-products going to the grower under contracts which are subject to the control of the Central Board. This Board functions as a part of the organisation of the Department of Agriculture.

Exports of molasses to the United Kingdom, Holland and other countries amounted to 59,985 metric tons, whilst the production of alcohol in 1959 amounted to 2,161,878 litres (100°G.L.) against 1,793,937 in 1958. The greater part of that production was used locally as rum, denatured spirits and power alcohol whilst about 25,000 litres were exported to Hong Kong and Seychelles.

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Industrial Crops

Three other crops are grown industrially, but on a small scale compared with sugarcane. These are tea, tobacco, and aloe fibre.

Tea

Mauritius produced 1,997,103 pounds of black tea in 1959. Exports to all markets amounted to 1,023,461 pounds most of which was sold by auction on the international markets of London and Nairobi. Overseas price levels were generally below those prevailing in 1958 although there was an upward trend in the final quarter after most of the Mauritius crop had been sold. Despite this, however, Mauritius sold 5,289 chests on the London market at an average price of 3s 11.43d per pound—thus more than doubling the 1958 London offerings and achieving an average price increase of over 4d per pound. Sales on Nairobi auctions were at around average prices.

By the end of the year it was estimated that controlled and Government-sponsored expansion of the Colony's tea area had resulted in the clearing and planting of approximately 1,500 acres since its inception in 1956–57.

A new Government owned tea factory—styled Chartreuse tea factory—was completed in the first half of the year and went into limited production under managing agents, who continued to manage the Government's Midlands' tea estate in conjunction with the factory.

Tobacco

Tobacco was grown on 1,073 acres in 1959, an increase of 67 acres as compared with 1958. Of this area, 755 acres were under Virginian varieties and the remainder under Amarello. The total production was 566,940 kilos.

A greater number of permits to grow Virginian varieties was issued following the increase of Customs duties on imported cigarettes in September 1958, as it was anticipated at the time that imports of cigarettes would decrease with a corresponding increase in consumption of domestic virginian leaf. However, this anticipated increase in consumption of domestic tobacco has not materialised appreciably, owing to the decision of the Amalgamated Tobacco Corporation (Mauritius) Ltd. to erect a factory to manufacture from 100 per cent imported leaf a brand of cigarettes which was prveiously imported and to the British-American Tobacco Co. (Mauritius) Ltd. having simultaneously put on the market a competing brand also manufactured with 100 per cent imported tobacco. As a result, the estimated requirements of the manufacturers in respect of locally grown tobacco may show a decrease of 100,000 kilos.

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As the two brands of cigarettes under reference were put on the market in September and October 1959 respectively, it may be expected that even more leaf will be imported in future contrary to the Tobacco Board's policy of increasing the production of better quality Virginian tobacco to replace imports as much as possible.

Tobacco is almost entirely grown in small plots, for the most part by peasant cultivators. In 1959 producers received on the average Rs 6.09 per kilo of Virginian flue-cured, Rs 5.19 per kilo of Amarello flue-cured; air-cured leaf sold at Rs 2.32 per kilo.

Cigarettes of lower grades are made entirely of Amarello leaf grown locally.

Mauritius can produce flue-cured Virginian tobacco of good colour and aroma, but up to now attempts to obtain a footing on the export market have failed owing to the small acreage under cultivation and of the necessity to supply the " run of the crop ". The area annually grown is determined by the Tobacco Board acording to the estimated requirements. On the Board sit representatives of the various interests concerned. Closely connected with it is the Tobacco Warehouse which receives, grades, processes, bales, stores and sells all the tobacco produced in the Colony.

Fibre

Fibre is produced in Mauritius mainly from the *Furcraea Gigantea* plant, also known as " Mauritius Hemp " or " Aloe ". It is a hard leaf fibre resembling sisal which is also grown to some extent. Furcraea thrives mostly in wild growng plantations, mainly along the drier coastal belt. The yield of a wild plantation is roughly reckoned at half a ton of fibre per acre per year while that of a regular plantation is estimated at one ton.

The fibre is extracted from the leaves by scraping in decorticators. These decorticators are of different types, but the majority are now modified versions of the " Raspador ". Although in the past leaf feeding to these machines was exclusively done by hand, mechanical feeding has been adopted in some cases as it dispenses with skilled labour, enables a greater output and produces a cleaner fibre. The green fibre obtained is washed and retted for 2 to 4 days after which it is washed, sun dried, brushed and baled.

During the last five years, fibre production averaged 1,620 tons a year. Nearly the whole quantity was absorbed by the Government Sack Factory for processing into bags for the transportation of sugar.

Twenty fibre factories were in operation in 1959. Production amounted to 1,464 tons.

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The Sack Factory absorbed 1,267,120 kgs of fibre in 1959, including brushed fibre, tow and cuttings, for the production of:—

395,635 sacks ; type 6×8, 80 kgs. capacity
805,006 „ „ 5×7, „ „
7,262 sacks of other types
27,861 yards of filter cloth
15,480.5 kgs. of yarn for the manufacture of ropes
1,828 yards of other products
6,869.5 kgs. of other products.

All the fibre produced in the Island is handled by the Mauritius Hemp Producers' Syndicate, which grades, bales, stores and sells the fibre. The fibre is graded as " Very Good " " Good ", " Tow " or " Cuttings ". At one time the surplus fibre not absorbed by the Sack Factory found a ready market abroad, but owing to the fall in price of sisal no prospective overseas buyer has been found for Mauritius fibre in recent years.

Food Crops

Production of foodcrops and vegetables in Mauritius amounted to some 52,000 tons from an area of approximately 10,000 acres of the various crops grown.

The Extension Service of the Agricultural Department advises farmers on improved agricultural techniques for both Sugar cane and the cultivation of various crops. Meetings of Planters in the evenings are organised in the Districts and Planters are thus given a chance of discussing their major agricultural problems. In addition visits are paid to farmers in the field where advice is given. Two more Demonstration Centres have been inaugurated this year at Mapou and at Flacq. The farmers' interest on the control of pests and diseases is maintained by demonstrations carried out on the correct methods that should be applied under specific conditions and against particular pests or diseases. Successful control of the major pests and diseases attacking foodcrops and vegetables is generally achieved.

Livestock

The milk cattle population of 38,000 at the 1956 census has been on the increase and numbers approximately 40,000 to-day. Both herd cattle and draft cattle have further decreased in number through intensive mechanisation and the secondary part manure is now playing in comparison to fertilizers.

The Artificial Insemination campaign using Creole bulls has helped to infuse more Creole blood into the stock, so that improvement by selection within the breed is progressing satisfactorily. The high percentage of cows inseminated by the Extension Service indicates confidence of the small breeder in the breeding policy.

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The goat population is being upgraded through crossing with Anglo Nubians. The framework of the goat is appreciably increased through that crossing.

The pig breeder will be considerably helped by obtaining pedigree Large White pigs from the Government Pig Breeding Centre for upgrading his pigs.

The colony relies on imports of day-old chicks from Australia and South Africa to supply the requirements of breeders. The new Poultry Project will make the colony self sufficient in day-old chicks thus avoiding imports. The project will also serve as a demonstration for deep litter, broiler production and brooding chicks under infra-red lamp.

Fisheries

The control of the Mauritius fisheries is exercised by the Fisheries Branch of the Department of Agriculture. This consists of a Fisheries Officer and an inspectorate of 59 inspectors and guards who are responsible for the enforcement of the laws regulating fisheries, the collection and establishment of statistics, and the study and implementation of all new measures which might be recommended for the better protection of the stock, for the improvement of the efficiency of the industry and the welfare of the fishing community.

The Department has given considerable attention to an aspect of production new to Mauritius, namely, the farming of freshwater fish for the production of food rich in protein which is deficient in the diet of most classes of the population.

Fishing is practised in the lagoon surrounding most of the Island, which covers an area of about 95 square miles and on the off shore shelf, to the 100 fathoms line, which is extensive in the northern part forming a bank of about 200 square miles with an average depth of 35 fathoms. About 1,800 fishermen with some 900 light fishing boats and a number of deep-sea pinnaces, together produce an annual catch of some 2,000 tons.

Usually middlemen supply crafts and gear to the fishermen who in return bring their catch at an agreed price. The middlemen is expected to make advances during periods of forced idleness.

The local catch is entirely consumed locally. The price varies with the abundance of fish; it is generally lower during the summer months when more fish is caught.

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Oyster Culture

Following expert advice obtained on modern methods of oyster culture, encouraging experiments have been made and it is expected that it will be possible to increase the annual yield which hitherto has been derived from natural oyster beds.

FORESTRY

(a) Areas of different types of forest. The statement below gives particulars of different types of forest areas in Mauritius:

Crown Forest Estate

A. *Areas potentially productive*	*Acreage*	*Total area in acres*
(a) Plantations of exotics		10,576
(b) Area suitable and available for economic forestry:—		
(i) Mountain Reserves	3,140	
(ii) National Reserves	2,994	
(iii) Catchment areas	5,009	
(iv) Other areas	12,045	
		33,764
B. *Areas potentially unproductive*		
(i) Mountain Reserves	14,843	
(ii) National Reserves	1,220	
(iii) Catchment areas	5,035	
		21,098
C. *Areas leased and not available for forestry*		12,560
		67,422

Leased Crown Lands in the Coastal belt of 250 (French) feet (Pas Géométriques)

(i) Tree Plantations (mainly Casuarina equisetifolia)...	4,400	
(ii) Rocky grazing lands with trees	1,100	
		5,500

Privately-owned forested lands

(i) Mountain Reserves (ii) River Reserves	Protected by law	9,000 6,500	
			15,500
(iii) Forest Lands (iv) Scrub Lands	Not protected by law	5,800 93,900	
			99,700
		TOTAL=	120,700
		GRAND TOTAL=	188,122

(b) Policy and methods of management

The Crown Forest Estate. The forest policy of the Government of Mauritius may be briefly summarised as follows:—

(i) To reserve in perpetuity sufficient land either already forested or capable of afforestation in order to safeguard and maintain water supplies, preserve the climatic and physical conditions of the Colony, prevent erosion and

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the silting up of reservoirs, provide forest produce for domestic, agricultural and industrial requirements and to maintain soil stability where the land is liable to deterioration if put to other uses;

(ii) to manage this Forest Estate so as to obtain the best returns on its capital value and the expenses of management, in so far as such returns are consistent with the primary aims set out above;

(iii) to set aside in perpetuity as ' National Reserves ' suitable areas of the native forests of Mauritius and to preserve such areas in their natural state by controlling, and preventing if possible, the intrusion and establishment of other-than-native trees and plants;

(iv) to encourage and assist the practice of sound forestry by private enterprise, and to educate selected Mauritians in technical forestry.

Most of the basic statistical information required for a *Working Plan* has been collected but a final decision is awaited in regard to the extent of Crown Land which is to be utilised permanently for productive and protected forestry.

(c) Organisation of the forestry industry. The Forest Department is directly responsible for the management of the Crown Forest Estate; all silvicultural and exploitation operations within it are conducted by the Department which is directly exploiting, converting and selling all forest produce deriving from it. Privately-owned forested lands other than those protected by law are managed by individual owners and in the course of the year under review many owners have undertaken quite extensive replanting operations. All forest produce deriving from exploitation operations is consumed locally.

Within privately-owned forested lands protected by law, i.e. Mountain and River Reserves, no felling or forestry operations of any kind may be carried out without the approval of the Government, such approval being given only in exceptional circumstances and as a general rule restricted to the removal of dead and fallen timber.

(d) Initial processing of timber, sawmills. Felling and logging is carried out by means of the saw and the axe. The preference of the professional woodcutter for working on his own is very marked and the use of the axe, rather than saw and axe combined in felling —logging operations, preponderates and results in much avoidable waste. Several types of cross-cutting saw have been introduced and

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demonstrated but so far attempts to persuade woodcutters to work in teams have been unsuccessful. Timber is manhandled from stump to roadside and from there transported by lorries to sawmills, of which there are 72 in the Island, the majority inadequately powered.

(e) Marketing of produce. Timber from the Crown Forest Estate is sold either in the round or in converted form at the three Government Timber Stores at Port Louis, Rose Hill and Curepipe, managed by the Department. Fuel from the Crown Forest Estate is converted departmentally and sold in the forests to individual purchasers who remove it by lorry. A considerable quantity of fuel is converted into charcoal in the forests, the finished product being removed to and sold at Government Timber Stores.

Produce from privately-owned forests is generally sold standing to dealers in timber, firewood and charcoal, but some owners conduct their own exploitation operations.

The retail prices of forest produce from the Crown Forest Estate are appreciably lower than those charged by private traders and sawmillers.

Forest Produce Exploited from Crown Forest Estate. The following tables give particulars of forest produce exploited on Crown Forest Lands during 1959.

(a) *Hardwoods:*	*Cubic feet Log Volume*
(i) Eucalyptus	76,240.60
(ii) Camphor (*Camphora Officianarum*)	3,326.56
(iii) Tecoma (*Tabebuia pallida*)	1,627.21
(iv) Filao (*Casuarina equisetifolia*)	3,026.73
(v) Native species (*several*)	56,401.10
(vi) Others	13,337.40
TOTAL HARDWOODS =	153,959.60

(b) *Softwoods:*	*Cubic feet Log Volume*
(i) *Pinus taeda, caribaea* (*coniferous*) & *sinensis spp.* ...	133,726.81
(ii) *Juniperus Bedfordiana*	15,222.04
(iii) *Cryptomeria Japonica*	31,590.11
(iv) *Araucaria*	1,011.30
TOTAL SOFTWOODS =	181,550.26
GRAND TOTAL HARDWOODS AND SOFTWOODS =	335,509.86

(c) Firewood and charcoal. During 1959, 24,496 *' cordes '* of firewood, each of 50 stacked cubic feet (equivalent to 1,224,800 cubic feet solid), together with 573,130 kgs of charcoal, were produced in the Crown Forest Estate.

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From privately-owned forests and leased Crown Lands

(i) *Timber.* An estimated volume of some 200,000 cubic feet of round timber, principally *' filao '* and eucalyptus was produced (accurate figures are not available).

(ii) *Firewood and charcoal.* An estimated 6,124 *' cordes '* of firewood (306,200 cubic feet solid) and 800,000 kgs of charcoal were produced.

The Forest Department

The permanent establishment of the Department consists of 150 posts.

For the day-to-day conduct of forestry operations the Department employed during 1959 a labour force of approximately 878 labourers. These were employed at Forest Department Nurseries and at Government Timber Stores, and on silvicultural, exploitation and surveying operations, the cutting of timber and fuel and in the manufacture of charcoal.

Organisation of the Department. The smallest administrative unit in the management of the Crown Forest Estate is the Forest Section, which is normally under the control of a Forester assisted by one or more Forest Guards. A number of Forest Sections constitute a Forest Range, administered by a Forest Range Officer with the assistance of one or more Deputy Forest Rangers. Two or more Forest Ranges constitute a Division, which is administered by a Divisional Forest Assistant under the general control of the Conservator of Forests. Two Assistant Conservators of Forests are employed on technical forestry operations, and the Deputy Conservator of Forests assists the Conservator of Forests in his administrative duties.

Labour Supply. In the purely silvicultural operations undertaken by the Department, the labour force employed is almost wholly Indo-Mauritian, but amongst the ranks of sawyers and woodcutters employed on piece-work rates a high proportion of *' Creoles '* continues to be employed. The percentage of *' Creoles '* is increasing, however, in the ranks of nursery labourers and workers employed on silvicultural and allied operations.

Cyclones. No major cyclones traversed the Island during 1959.

Imports of timber. During 1959 a total of 658,747.56 cubic feet of converted timber (including 37,494 cubic feet of sleepers) of a gross value of Rs 5,009,480 was imported into the Colony, mainly from Malaya, Siam and Australia. Imported timber is used mainly in building construction; there is a marked local preference in its favour owing to its superior finish.

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Food Production. Damage by deer, pigs and monkeys in the upland forest zones restricts the application of the '*taungya*' system to forest plantations within the lower and warmer elevations and the coastal belt.

Protection. The 4,520 acres of National Reserves continued to receive full attention. The experimental plots laid out in them to establish the best means of controlling exotics and at the same time foster the regeneration of native species are showing gratifying results.

The experimental timber plantations created on the lower slopes of Signal Mountain were satisfactorily protected against fire. These plantations are surrounded by grass lands which are annually fired; no fires crossed into the rigidly protected areas.

No serious damage to Eucalyptus crops by the Curculionid beetle *(Gonipterus Scutellatus)* was reported.

Tea Cultivation. The cultivation of tea in Crown Lands "Wooton" and "Midlands" was extended. The Forest Department assisted the Tea Officer in the initial clearance of the areas.

Silviculture. A total area of 544.22 acres was newly planted during the year, principally with: *Eucalyptus robusta, umbellata, citriodora* and *Hybrid; Pinus taeda* and *elliottii; D. Latifolia; Swietenia Mahogany; Cinnamomum Camphora; Araucaria Cookii; Agathis Robusta.* In addition some 4,299.98 acres of plantations of from 5 — 20 years of age were treated culturally under weeding, cleaning, thinning and pruning operations.

Output of Forest Produce

The statement below gives the estimated volume in the round (log volume) of timber and forest produce, local or imported into Mauritius during 1959, and of other minor forest produce.

(*i*) *Major Forest Produce (Timber) :*

(*A*) *Local Production*	*Cubic ft. (solid)*
(*a*) Production from Crown Forests	335,509.86
(*b*) Production from unleased Pas Géométriques ..	1,000
(*c*) Production from privately-owned Forests and leased Pas Géométriques	200,000
TOTAL ...	536,509.86
(*d*) Imports from 1st January to 31st December, 1959 (sawn timber 658,747.56 cubic feet)	1,317,495.12
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,854,004.98

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(*ii*) *Minor Forest Produce :*

	Cubic ft. (solid)
(*a*) Firewood from Crown Forest Lands (stacked) cordes of 50 cubic feet	1,224,800
(*b*) Firewood from privately-owned Forest Lands or leased Crown Lands estimated 6,124 stacked cordes of 50 cubic feet	306,200
TOTAL ...	1,531,000
	Kgms.
(*c*) Charcoal from Crown Forest Lands	573,130
(*d*) Charcoal from privately-owned forested lands or leased Crown Lands	800,000
TOTAL ...	1,373,130

Revenue and Expenditure. During the year 1959, the Department was responsible for expenditure of Rs 2,713,584.18. The revenue derived by the Department from the sale of forest produce and shooting and fishing leases amounted to Rs 1,061,836.90.

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Apart from the sugar, tea, tobacco and the fibre industries discussed above, there are local industries of lesser importance which comprise the manufacture of rum and wine, edible oil and soap, cigarettes, aerated beverages, dairy produce, salt, lime and bricks.

Various small trades, including printing, tanneries, mechanical and electrical workshops, flourish in the Colony.

The Customs Tariff Ordinance provides for exemptions from import duty in respect of machinery and apparatus intended solely for use in factories for the manufacture or preparation of most of the commodities which are produced in the Colony, and the Income Tax Ordinance provides for an " investment allowance " equal to one-tenth of the capital expenditure incurred on construction of buildings or provision of new plant for industrial purposes.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

The co-operative movement in Mauritius and Rodrigues is guided by a small Department of Government in conjunction with a secondary society: the Mauritius Co-operative Union Ltd. The movement derives financial support from another secondary society, the Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank Ltd., whilst the interests of agricultural and distributive societies are attended to by the Mauritius Co-operative Agricultural Federation Ltd., and the Mauritius Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd., respectively.

The movement was composed of four Secondary Societies, three hundred and thirty-eight Primary Societies comprising

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33,514 individual members; and divided into 171 Co-operative Credit Societies of unlimited liability, 4 Credit Societies of limited liability, 25 Thrift and Savings Societies, 27 School Savings Banks, 79 Co-operative Consumers' Stores, 6 Marketing Societies, 3 Houing Societies, one Printing Society, 21 Transport Societies and one Better Living Society.

During the year 11 new societies were registered and the registration of 14 societies was cancelled.

The Department of Co-operation is responsible for the registration of new societies and for the advice, guidance, economic investigation and organisation involved therein; for audit and supervision of existing societies and for education of officers and members in co-operative activities in both of which it received material assistance from the staff of the Mauritius Co-operative Union Ltd., for arbitration in disputes, and, when necessary, for the cancellation of registration and liquidation of societies.

The raising of standards of management, secretarial work and book-keeping and the control of credit within the consumer section of the movement continued to engage the attention of the department to the limit of its capacity.

The Deputy Registrar acted as Registrar from February to the end of September, supported by one Assistant Registrar and ten field officers of whom one was absent on sick leave, leave or overseas studies during the whole year, and three for four months. One additional Co-operative Officer was appointed at the end of August bringing the total up to eleven and two further posts remained unfilled throughout December.

One Co-operative Officer was stationed in Rodrigues throughout the year and two visits paid by senior Co-operative Officers: one of nine weeks for external audit purposes and one of six days in company with the Minister for Local Government and Co-operative Development.

The Mauritius Co-operative Union Ltd. at the end of the year had a membership of 209 societies. Its objects are to promote co-operation, to bring together co-operative institutions for a common endeavour, to assist wih supervision and audit, to promote education in co-operative activities and to represent the movement.

During the year the Union provided stationery to societies upon payment, used its mobile Cinema Van and equipment to give film shows, and furnished legal advice and assistance to societies.

At the beginning of the year its staff consisted of one Secretary-Supervisor and eleven Supervisors, but the Secretary-Supervisor

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was transferred without replacement in October to manage the Mauritius Co-operative Wholesale Society and the appointment of two additional Supervisors gave an overall addition of one by the end of the year.

In 1959 the revenue of the Union amounted to Rs 90,600 of which 61% was derived from donations from secondary societies and a grant in aid of Rs 30,000 from Government.

The Registrar of Co-operative Societies is *ex-officio* the President of the Union and of its central and executive committees. The Deputy Registrar and two C-operative Officers are *ex-officio* members of the Union.

The Mauritius Co-operative Agricultural Federation Ltd. with a membership of 148 societies, acts on behalf of its societies in agricultural matters and for this purpose retains the part-time services of a barrister and of a firm of Chartered Accountants. During the year the Federation continued to assist in the formation of cane-planter transport societies. The Federation was represented on a number of Government boards and committees. Its staff consists of a secretary and an assistant secretary.

The Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank Ltd. at the end of the year had a membership of 175 societies, share capital of Rs 532,366, reserves of Rs 724,394 and deposits of over two and a half million rupees. Loans issued in 1959 at 5½% interest p.a. amounted to Rs 4,056,000; rather less than the previous year. Loans overdue at the end of the year totalled Rs 10,862. Loans to member societies, consisting mainly of cane-growers, are secured by a lien on the societies' sugar, all of which is sold through the Bank's secretary-manager, who is also the Bank's broker.

The Mauritius Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd., with 83 member societies, had a turnover of Rs 4,705,042 for the year ended 31st December, 1959. The society's share capital was Rs 126,951 and reserves amounted to Rs 78,541. In consequence of a general tendency towards overtrading in foodstuffs in Mauritius the society temporarily abandoned direct importation.

Credit Societies of Unlimited Liability

At the end of the year there were 151 credit societies of unlimited liability in Mauritius and 20 in Rodrigues, with a total of 10,102 members. The majority of the members of the Mauritius societies are cane-growers, while those of the Rodrigues societies are mainly engaged in subsistence farming. In 1959 loans by Mauritius societies to members totalled Rs 4,797,808 and were secured by sureties and a lien on the crop. Payments to members for cane

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marketed through the agency of their societies amounted to Rs 12¾ million. The deposits of members amounted to Rs 409,428 as compared with Rs 263,648 for the year 1958. Share capital of all societies amounted to Rs 526,063.

Credit Societies of Limited Liability

The four credit societies of limited liability, whose 84 members are fishermen, issued loans totalling Rs 715 during the year. The co-operative marketing of fish caught in the large "seine" acquired by one of the societies had some success. Share capital amounted to Rs 4,002 and a loan from Government to one society to enable it to acquire boats for fishing was being negotiated at the end of the year.

Thrift and Savings Societies

There were 25 thrift and savings societies at the end of 1959 with a membership of 2,086 and savings of Rs 613,926. The two societies of salary earners, with deductions for savings at source, were successful. An extension of this type of society under the name of Credit Unions was being widely canvassed at the close of the year. In the remaining societies, which are in the rural areas, deduction at source was not possible and except in a few cases savings were poor.

School Savings Banks

No new savings banks were registered in 1959 and four were dissolved bringing the total to 27 with a total membership of 4,904. By the end of the year savings amounted to Rs 59,168 as compared with Rs 69,892 in 1958. The decline was due to the fact that all clerical and organisational work of these societies devolves upon the teaching staff whose time is limited. The Co-operative Union supplies books free of charge from its Education Fund and, as a special concession to help the banks build up funds for communal activities, the Co-operative Central Bank pays interest at 3½% on their deposits.

Co-operative Retail Stores

At the end of 1959 there were 79 co-operative retail stores with a membership of 13,349 and a turnover of Rs 6,768,443. The majority of societies operated sccessfully, but a few suffered losses through defalcations, bad management and excessive credit sales. In addition to the usual bad debts reserve, all societies are building up, by allocation of surplus, what is termed a mutual aid fund. Once the fund reaches the required level the by-laws are amended to allow credit sales up to the amount of the fund on the basis of

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a maximum credit limit for each member. In this way the fund serves as a buffer against losses on credit sales and makes up for capital tied up in debts.

Marketing Societies

The registration of the one ginger marketing society which had ceased to function in the previous year was cancelled at the request of the members.

The 199 members of the six tea marketing societies sold 829,202 ks of leaf under contract to tea factories.

The six tea marketing societies registered in 1956 entered into contracts with tea factories for the sale of their members' tea leaves.

Housing Societies

Three housing societies had a total membership of 251, share capital of Rs 8,970 and deposits of Rs 49,699. They are financed by Government loan and lent Rs 91,318 to members for the building of houses during the year.

Printing Society

The co-operative printing society had 846 members, a share capital of Rs 29,804 and a printing press in Port Louis. It carried out Rs 47,702 worth of printing business during the year.

Transport Societies

The number of co-operative transport societies increased to 21 and membership to 1,011. Paid-up shares on the 31st December, 1959, amounted to Rs 234,384. 52,119 tons of sugar cane were transported from fields to factories during the 1959 crop. Capital expenditure by these societies is reimbursed from the Sugar Planters Rehabilitation Fund. In the last quarter of the year a variation of previous legal interpretation resulted in Societies being required to pay the same licence fees as public transporters though limited to transporting canes for members only.

Better Living Society

One co-operative better-living society with 68 members operated in Long Mountain. It maintained a kindergarten school for about 50 children under five years of age. The kindergarten school was no longer assisted by the Village Council.

Educational Activities

In addition to regular staff conferences for the discussion of points of Co-operative Law, practice and accounting, the staff continued to take correspondence courses in book-keeping and other subjects from the Co-operative College, Loughborough, and two of them successfully sat for examinations. The Co-operative Union showed films on co-operative subjects throughout Mauritius.

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Audit

The audit of all societies' accounts for the period ending 28.2.59 was completed without undue delay. Except in the case of three secondary societies and the printing society, which employed professional or approved auditors, the audits were carried out by the staff of the Department of Co-operation assisted by the Mauritius Co-operative Union Ltd. In addition to the annual statutory audit, interim audits were done throughout the year.

Arbitrations

Three hundred and forty seven disputes were referred to the Registrar during the year. The majority were referred to arbitration and involved two hundred and ninety arbitration awards and eleven appeals.

Most of the disputes arose from failure to pay for goods purchased on credit, others concerned stock and cash shortages in stores and a minority failure to repay loans. Where necessary the awards were referred for execution to the attorney of the Mauritius Co-operative Union Ltd. The co-operative movement was fortunate in retaining the honorary services as arbitrators of two retired civil servants, and two retired teachers, all active members of the movement.

TABLE

The following table gives an indication of progress made over three years:—

		1957	*1958*	*1959*
Total Societies ...		337	345	342
Total Members ...		33,065	34,557	33,514
Total Turnover ...	Rs	38,521,400*	38,094,401*	44,173,734*
Share Capital ...	Rs	1,463,200	1,636,184	1,759,168
Reserve Funds ...	Rs	2,077,593*	2,347,382*	2,506,306*
Other Funds ...	Rs	329,738*	478,911*	578,771*
Government loans to Societies ...	Rs	246,030	280,708	317,132
Total Assets ...	Rs	10,767,446*	12,274,049*	12,791,369*

*For the year ended 28th February.

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Chapter 7: Social Services

EDUCATION

Organization

The Education Department is the biggest of the Departments which form the administrative machinery of the Government of Mauritius. It has seven divisions and a staff of about 3,520. The headquarters staff consists of a Director, a Deputy Director, three Assistant Directors, a number of Administrative Education Officers and Organizers, and a clerical and store-keeping staff of 59. The other senior members of the staff at Assistant Director level are the Chief Superintendent of Primary Schools, the Principals and the Headmistress of the three Government Secondary Schools, the Principal of the Teachers' Training College, and the Principal of the Technical Institute and Trade Centre.

An Advisory Board advises the Minister of Education on all questions concerning education in the Colony.

Educational Facilities

On the 31st October, 1959, there were 189 Government and Aided Primary Schools providing free education to 107,487 pupils. The 76 aided schools are managed by four Education Authorities: Roman Catholic (53 schools), Church of England (17 schools), Hindu (4 schools) and Muslim (2 schools). There were in addition 406 other primary and secondary schools registered with the Department with a roll of 18,686 primary school children. This number, which includes 3,386 children in the primary sections of the secondary schools, brought the total number of children receiving primary education in 1959 to 126,173 as compared with 115,629 the previous year. Of that total, 68,997 were boys and 57,176 girls.

Teachers in aided schools are paid by the Department and are appointed, transferred or promoted by the Director on the recommendation of the Authority concerned. The promotion of teachers in the Government primary schools is, like that of other civil servants, subject to the Governor's approval, which is usually given on the advice of the Public Service Commission.

In primary education the English pattern is followed, generally speaking, subject to adjustments to suit local conditions. The course lasts six years; pupils enter at the age of 5 but are allowed to stay up to the age of 12 to compete for the junior scholarships which entitle the winners to free tuition in secondary schools.

According to the Education Ordinance, a total of 120 Government scholarships are obtainable on a competitive basis, 70 for boys and 50 for girls. However, in 1959, 122 scholarships were awarded,

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72 for boys and 50 for girls. These scholarships which provide free secondary education, free travelling and a grant of Rs 300 a year, are tenable at Government, aided and unaided secondary schools which have been given approval as ' B ' status schools.

Secondary education is almost exclusively of the grammar school type, leading to university courses. Government schools can meet only part of the demand and since 1951 the Department has been subsidizing a number of private schools which can offer satisfactory guarantees of proper schooling up to School Certificate or Higher School Certificate level. There were on the 31st October, 1,360 pupils in the three Government secondary schools, 2,435 in the subsidized schools known as " approved secondary schools ", and 14,694 in the unaided secondary schools. This total of 18,489 secondary pupils was made up of 12,545 boys and 5,944 girls. The 69 secondary schools comprise 3 Government, 8 grant-aided and 58 other schools.

Apart from the College of Agriculture and Training College, there are no institutions in the Colony which provide full-time post-secondary education, and students wishing to follow university and other post-secondary courses have to go overseas. In 1959 there were 606 students following courses in institutions of higher education in the United Kingdom, Eire, on the Continent of Europe and in India.

All those seeking permanent service in the Government and aided primary schools must pass through the Teachers' Training College at Beau Bassin. The normal course is of two years' duration but this has to be supplemented from time to time by shorter courses to meet the demand for new teachers. During the year, 422 students were in training at the College or in the primary schools, including 328 long course (185 men and 143 women), 82 short course (77 men and 5 women) and 12 teachers and one Health Department officer following a year's in-service training in handicrafts.

The greatest problem which confronts the Department is the increasing number of children of school-going age and the consequential rising demand for school places. Policy has necessarily been influenced both by this pressing demand for more school places and by the need for instruction of a practical nature. There is an urgent need for more schools and more teachers and steps are being taken to meet the situation within the limits of the country's resources.

Nine new Government primary schools were opened in 1959. An additional two were completed, but not opened by the end of the year, and seven others were under construction.

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The Roman Catholic, Hindu, and Church of England Education Authorities pursued their school rebuilding schemes which receive Government aid on the basis of a two-thirds grant of the capital expenditure incurred by the Authority or of the additional rent payable by the Authority to landlords. Fully equipped handicraft centres have now been provided in 62 Government and Aided primary schools, serving a total of 98 schools at the Central School, at the two Government secondary schools for boys and at the Training College (which has two centres).

The policy concerning technical education and Central Schools came under review and, consequently, plans prepared for the Technical Institute and Trade Centre to be built outside Port Louis were not proceeded with. The Technical Institute continued to work in temporary quarters at Quatre Bornes.

School Health Service

The School Health Service falls under two headings: medical and dental. The staff comprises three School Medical Officers, (two full-time School Medical Officers and one part-time Medical Officer), three Nurses, three Health Workers, five Dentists with one Clinical and Clerical Assistant each, and one Nutrition and Health Assistant.

Entrants into all Government and aided primary schools and into Government secondary schools are medically examined. Free medical treatment is provided for primary school pupils. All new teaching staff and school caretakers are medically examined and X-rayed. During the year, the staff of all schools were submitted to miniature Chest X-ray.

The School Nurses and Health Workers carry out cleanliness and health surveys (including distance vision testing) in the primary schools. Free treatment to pupils and their families is provided for head infestation with lice.

The medical staff is helped by the Nutrition and Health Assistant, whose duties consist in giving talks on nutrition to senior pupils in primary schools and to mothers of school children, in weighing and measuring pupils, and in rendering assistance in connexion with the School Milk Scheme. The issue of iron tablets with the daily milk ration in Government and Aided primary schools was continued. Extra milk, iron, yeast and Halibut Oil capsules are also issued on the recommendation of the Medical Officers.

A Mobile School Clinic fully equipped for medical, cleansing and nutrition work visits all the primary schools.

The dental service treats primary school pupils only. Pupils of schools in the urban areas are treated at the hospitals while schools in rural areas are visited by two Mobile Dental Clinics. Teeth-

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cleaning drills are held regularly at school. Toothbrushes at a subsidised price are available for sale to primary school pupils. Nit combs and nail brushes are sold at cost price to schoolchildren and their parents.

Handicrafts

Increasing emphasis was placed on the teaching of handicrafts in Government and aided primary schools and in the Government Central and secondary schools.

In 1959, fifteen new handicraft centres were opened, including one at Rodrigues, bringing the total to sixty-two. Bookcraft is taught to children of Standards IV to VI and woodwork and metalwork to boys of Standard VI. A three-year course in needlework for girls is now in force in all schools, and at certain schools basketry is also taught. This year vacation courses for teachers were run in wood-turning, knitting and sewing.

School Broadcasts

The weekly programmes intended for the 98 Government and aided primary schools which were equipped with radio sets included the following regular items: weekly news, readings from the prescribed English language text books, and the B.B.C. " Listen and Write " series. There are twice weekly broadcasts to the secondary schools, mainly of B.B.C. material.

Visual and Aural Education

The activities of the Visual Aids Section include the drawing up of weekly filmshow programmes for the Government and aided primary schools, giving previews of the films to the teachers on Saturdays, going round the Government and aided primary schools to show the films, and distributing visual aids, materials (filmstrips, picture sets, photographs) to those schools. This year the Unit gave 466 shows in primary schools, attended by 41,092 pupils and 173 shows for the benefit of post-primary students. The Music Organizer had a particularly active and successful year enhanced by the visit of Mr Peter Burgess of the Royal Schools of Music, delegated to hold examinations in singing and instrumental music. Of 41 choirs entered 36 gained merits. In the primary schools, 9 music teachers now visit 80 schools. Most of the Government and aided secondary schools have choirs and the Primary School Teachers' Orchestra which was formed in 1958 is progressing satisfactorily.

Further Education

Post-primary continuation classes were organized at 23 centres with a total enrolment of 556 pupils.

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Post-secondary continuation classes provide instruction on a fee-paying basis in commercial subjects (with a view to those enrolled taking the London Chamber of Commerce examinations) and also in art, bookbinding, woodwork and weaving. Attendance at these classes was much more regular than at the post-primary classes.

Science extension classes provide laboratory facilities for students reading for the G.C.E., Intermediate and Final B.Sc. examinations, and for local examinations in Pharmacy. The subjects studied are Physics, Chemistry and Biology. In 1959 about 150 students followed a practical course in one or other of these subjects.

Youth Organisations

Special emphasis continues to be placed on the expansion of the youth movement in the rural areas. There are now six Federations made up of the clubs and organizations in each region. Six Youth Officers from the Education Department have been seconded to work in the rural areas to help these Federations to develop and to broaden the scope of club activities.

The total number of clubs and organizations has shown a marked increase and there are now 750 affiliated to Youth House with an approximate membership of 30,000.

Mauritius continues its affiliation to W.A.Y (World Assembly of Youth) and was represented in 1959 on the Executive Committee of W.A.Y. by a member of the Youth Council. The Regional representative of South East Africa visited Mauritius.

Expenditure

Expenditure on Education during the financial year 1958–59 amounted to Rs 21,886,532.32, of which Rs 18,337,382.09 was recurrent and Rs 3,549,150.23 was capital expenditure. Recurrent expenditure represents 13.84 per cent of total Government expenditure of a recurrent nature.

Public Health

The medical services are administered by a Director of Medical Services, assisted by two deputies. They are organised into nine divisions and form one of the largest Government departments. The health services have appreciably expanded in recent years and provision is made in the Capital Expenditure Programme 1957–62 for a further degree of expansion and development.

The functions of the Medical and Health Department are:

(a) to investigate the influence of social, environmental and domestic factors on the incidence of human disease and disability;

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(b) to plan and carry out measures for the promotion of health;

(c) to institute and maintain measures for the prevention of disease;

(d) to provide a quarantine service to prevent the introduction of infectious diseases by sea or air;

(e) to provide facilities for treatment of disease, including mental disease, by maintenance of hospital and dispensary services;

(f) to make provision for the rehabilitation of the disabled;

(g) to control the practice of medicine, dentistry and pharmacy;

(h) to provide facilities for the training of nurses, midwives, sanitary officers;

(i) to advise local authorities regarding their health services and to inspect those services;

(j) to prepare and publish reports and statistical or other information relating to health.

General Health

The improvement in health conditions during the past few years, as demonstrated by the following statistical figures, is one of the most notable features in the recent history of the Colony.

The figures were affected in 1957 by an outbreak of Asiatic influenza:—

Year	*Birth rate per* $^0/_{00}$	*Death rate per* $^0/_{00}$	*Infant Mortality rate per* $^0/_{00}$	*Maternal Mortality rate per* $^0/_{00}$
1938 ...	33·4	29·9	162·5	11·38
1943 ...	33·1	25·9	141·5	5·14
1950 ...	49·7	13·9	76·3	3·51
1955 ...	41·8	12·9	67·2	1·47
1956 ...	43·8	11·8	66·0	2·13
1957 ...	43·1	13·0	75·1	2·84
1958 ...	40·8	11·8	67·4	3·73
1959 ...	38·5	10·9	62·5	2·41

The main factors responsible for bringing about such striking improvements have been the progressive elimination of malaria as a result of an island-wide campaign, the higher standard of environmental hygiene, the absence of severe cyclones and drought during the past thirteen years and the relative economic prosperity of the Island.

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Malaria

Malaria, which up to 1945 occupied the first place amongst causes of mortality, has now ceased to be a public health problem and the figures shown below indicate the remarkable fall in the death rate due to malaria:—

Year	*Deaths ascribed to malaria*	*Rate per 0/00 population*	*Percentage of deaths due to malaria to total deaths*
1945 ...	3,534	8·34	23·13
1948 ...	1,580	3·58	15·02
1951 ...	285	0·59	3·95
1952 ...	188	0·37	2·52
1953 ...	61	0·12	0·73
1954 ...	27	0·05	0·32
1955 ...	3	0·00	0·04
1956 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1957 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1958 ...	1	0·00	0·01
1959 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil

Infective and Parasitic Diseases

There has equally been a decline in the number of deaths caused by the group of infective and parasitic diseases as shown by the following figures:—

Year	*Deaths (ascribed to infective and parasitic diseases)*
1948 ...	4,052
1949 ...	1,603
1951 ...	863
1954 ...	665
1955 ...	311
1956 ...	354
1957 ...	416
1958 ...	315
1959 ...	263

Poliomyelitis

An epidemic of poliomyelitis broke out in 1959. It started on the 13th June, lasted 14 weeks and left in its wake 97 paralysed victims. There were no deaths attributed to it. The youngest victim was 5½ months old and the oldest 32 years. About 84 of those affected were under 3 years of age.

The Government was fortunate enough to obtain a supply of Sabin live vaccine from the Poliomyelitis Research Foundation Laboratory, Johannesburg. This laboratory was supplied with specimens from which the polio virus prevalent here was typed and

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the laboratory sent a member of its staff, Dr. P. D. Winter, to supervise the administration of the vaccine. About 195,000 children, between the ages of 6 months and 10 years, received the Sabin vaccine.

Mortality Rates

Mortality from the principal groups of diseases is hereunder summarised:

Group	*Number of deaths*	
	1958	*1959*
(*a*) Infective and parasitic diseases	315	263
(*b*) Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs ...	388	393
(*c*) Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs	421	410
(*d*) Diseases of the circulation system	644	650
(*e*) Diseases of the respiratory system	846	797
(*f*) Diseases of the digestive system	1,077	914
(*g*) Certain diseases of early infancy	817	722

Institutional Facilities

The institutional facilities which were available in 1959 are tabulated hereunder:—

(a) *Government Institutions*	*No.*	*Beds*
1. General Hospitals	8	1,202
2. Dispensaries (including 2 in the prisons)	50	—
3. Specialized Units :—		
(*a*) Maternity and Child Welfare Centres	9	—
(*b*) Maternity wards in hospitals	8	110
(*c*) Leprosarium	1	62
(*d*) Mental Hospital	1	707
(*e*) Orthopaedic Hospital	1	157
(*f*) Prisons Hospitals	2	46
4. Mobile Units :—		
(*a*) Dispensaries	4 units	
(*b*) Ante-natal Clinic	1 unit	
(*c*) Dental clinic	2 unit	
(b) *Private Institutions*		
1. Sugar estate hospitals	33	738
2. Sugar estate dispensaries	8	—
3. Nursing homes	5	53

There are 39 dispensaries in the rural areas. In addition a Mobile Dispensary service comprising four units caters for the needs of scattered villages and hamlets where it would be uneconomic to provide a static out-patient service.

There are 23 maternity and infant welfare centres, and regular clinics are held at each of these. This service is supplemented by a mobile unit which visits a large number of localities in the rural districts.

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Medical and Health Staff

	Government	*Private*
1. Registered Medical Practitioners	70	70
2. Dentists	5	31
3. Pharmacists	2	47
4. Nurses of senior training ...	9	—
Nurses in hospitals	201	—
Dressers in hospitals	228	—
5. Midwives (all categories) ...	69	—
6. Sanitary Inspectors	55	—
7. X-Ray Specialists	2	—
X-Ray Technicians	4	—

Expenditure on Health Services

Government expenditure on medical and health services in the financial year 1958–59 was Rs 14,566,556, or 10.99 per cent of the Colony's total expenditure for the year. This represented Rs 23.73 per head of the estimated population at the 31st December, 1959.

Building and Planning

Town Planning

Although the Town and Country Planning Ordinance (No. 6 of 1954) is in force, no general planning system has been enforced through the lack of the technical staff required.

Housing

In both rural and urban areas, individual house building continued at a lively rate, timber and concrete blocks being the main materials used. The Local Authorities began the construction of houses and a scheme for a further 70 houses was being prepared.

Building Construction

There has been an increase in the use of concrete as the basic building material. Timber buildings are being gradually replaced and this is due to a large extent to the fact that timber buildings require higher maintenance costs. The shortage of well-seasoned timber is one of the factors which explain the change from timber to concrete building.

The large increase in building work has created a demand for more skilled artisans and experienced supervisory staff.

Building Works

Apart from the construction of government buildings, schools and the housing schemes of the Local Authorities, the building industry has had to undertake the housing schemes of the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund. Extensive projects for the Admiralty started during the year and these have given the local building industry the opportunity to work in close collaboration with a strong team of technicians from the United Kingdom.

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Numerous commercial buildings have been put up and a new clinic is nearing completion at Réduit. The construction of hotels is being planned with a view to promoting the tourist industry.

Government Buildings

Numerous new buildings under the Five-Year Development Plan were completed and new ones started. In many urban and rural areas, new one-stream, two and three-stream schools were put up and work started on the second phase of the Royal College School, Port Louis. A new Outpatient Department at the Civil Hospital Port Louis, was completed and two modern blocks of offices for ministerial staff were started.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

Outdoor Relief

The basic organisation for the registration, investigation and adjudication of applications for outdoor relief, remained the same in 1959 as in 1958.

New applications received in 1959 amounted to 21,123 of which 15,299 were approved, while 13,102 allowances were withdrawn from the register during the year. The total number of cases on roll at 31st December, 1959, was 22,101 as compared with 19,468 at the end of the preceding year.

The basic scale rates which were introduced in 1952 by the Outdoor Relief Committee (Darlow Committee) and altered in 1953, with effect from July, 1952, provided for an increase of Rs 1.50 per adult and Re 1 per child to meet changes in the cost of living. These scale rates were further increased in early 1958 by the same amount with effect from the 1st July, 1957.

The total amount disbursed on Outdoor Relief in 1959 was Rs 7,650,554 (the average regular monthly payment being Rs 28.03 as against Rs 23.14 for 1958).

Relief in kind

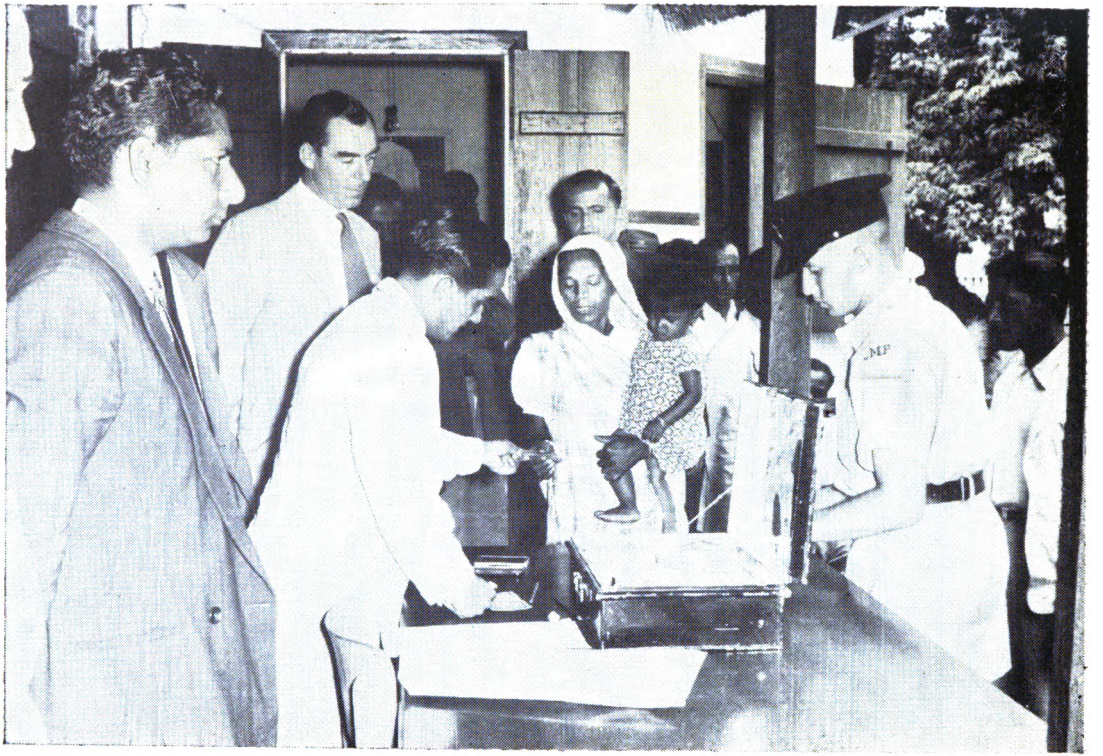
The number and cost of blankets and flannel under-garments distributed to needy recipients of outdoor relief during the winter season in 1959 as compared with 1958, are as under:

Year	*Blankets*	*Flannels*	*Total cost*
	Units	*Units*	*Rs*
1958 ...	5,020	670	50,844.00
1959 ...	8,113	1,435	78,632.97

In addition to these comforts, 466 pairs of spectacles to the value of Rs 2,747.25 were also issued to recipients of Outdoor Relief and to Old Age Pensioners in 1959 on the recommendation of the eye specialist.

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RELIEF TO VICTIMS OF FLOODS

An officer of the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund Committee giving financial assistance to one of the victims of the floods which occurred in the north of the island on 14th November, 1959. Standing on the left of the officer, Mr. D. A. Kain, O.B.E., Deputy Financial Secretary and Chairman of the S.I.L.W.F. Committee.

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Workrooms

Work in lieu of relief continued to be provided in the workrooms throughout the year to 33 persons, mostly widows with large families. Their total earnings for the year on a piece-rate basis amounted to Rs 46,459.39 as follows:

	Rs
Lingerie (out-workers)	9,899.34
Sergerie and Uniforms (in-workers) ...	36,560.05
TOTAL ...	46,459.39

The average monthly earning was therefore Rs 117.32 per relief worker.

Indoor Relief

There was no addition in 1959 to the number of institutions providing indoor treatment.

The number of inmates in the infirmaries and orphanages at the end of 1959, including harmless mental patients transferred from the Mental Hospital, was as under:

	Male	*Female*	*Total*
Infirm ...	381	315	696
Orphans ...	88	110	198

as compared with 672 infirms and 186 orphans at the end of the preceding year.

The capitation grant for both adults and children was increased from Rs 1.10 to Rs 1.20 per day with effect from 1st July, 1959.

A programme of outings to the seaside was arranged for the inmates of all infirmaries and orphanages in 1959 and these outings were much appreciated. The Youth Organisation also invited some 80 orphans from Public Assistance institutions to join the Schools Holiday Camp at Cannoniers Point for a week, thereby affording them an opportunity to mix with other children and participate in outdoor games and other activities during that period.

Frequent visits were paid in 1959 to the various institutions by members of voluntary organisations who distributed sweets and cigarettes to inmates and provided them with musical and other entertainment.

Old Age Pensions

An old age pension of Rs 22 per month is payable to persons who qualify for such under the Old Age Pension Ordinance, 1951, as subsequently amended. 3,500 new cases were dealt with during the year, of which 3,334 were granted. The cases turned down were those in respect of persons not fulfilling the required statutory

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conditions in regard to residence. The number of old age pensioners at the end of 1959 was 26,714, and the total disbursements during the year amounted to Rs 7,005,485 as against Rs 7,810,895 in 1958.

Repatriation

Expenditure of Rs 8,946.69 was incurred in 1959 on the repatriation of 25 destitute Mauritians from abroad and aliens from the Colony.

The number of repatriates on record at the end of 1959 was 72 and repayments amounting to Rs 6,277.29 were effected by liable parties during the year.

Relief to destitute Mauritians abroad

During the year there were nine persons in receipt of " hard core " relief. The total amount disbursed in 1959 was Rs 9,566.26 as against Rs 13,144.58 the previous year.

Social Welfare

Departmental Organization

The Social Welfare Department was created in July, 1953, and was made responsible for social welfare and the Probation service which were previously the responsibility of the Public Assistance and the Judicial Departments. The Department works in close co-operation with other Government departments and voluntary social service organizations and is associated with the Ministry of Health and Reform Institutions.

In June, 1958, a Social Development Board was set up to replace the Social Welfare Advisory Committee and to advise the Minister on all social development matters which he may refer to the Board and to enlist and to co-ordinate the co-operation of all voluntary organizations in the field of social welfare.

Social Welfare Centres

A social welfare centre (the last in a scheme of fourteen) is under construction at Roche Bois. These centres play an important part in the development of community activities and in the general social education of the people in the rural areas. They also provide certain medical facilities. A maternity and child welfare service is attached at each centre and milk is distributed free while doctors paid by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund Committee attend to expectant and nursing mothers reporting to the centre. Arrangements have also been made for the provision of a midwifery service: a midwife has been attached by the Medical Department to each of nine centres and in the remaining five the midwifery service is run under the technical supervision of the Medical Department out of funds provided largely by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund.

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In all villages where they exist, social welfare centres are the focal point for afternoon and evening activities. Indoor games, sports, and listening to the radio are the main activities. In some centres there are formal literary classes, with debates and lectures from time to time. Film shows by mobile cinema units are a regular feature at each centre.

Agricultural demonstration plots have been set up at some social welfare centres with a view to teaching the local farmers how production can be increased by the adoption of modern methods of cultivation. Vegetable growers are also encouraged to organise themselves into Farmers' Clubs.

Needlework and dressmaking classes are held at each centre for the benefit of the village girls.

Canteens where non-alcoholic drinks are sold at a reasonable price for consumption on the premises have been set up with a view to combating the evils of alcoholism.

The centres are managed by local committees and conferences grouping the chairmen of these committees are held from time to time under the chairmanship of the Social Welfare Commissioner to co-ordinate the various welfare activities.

Welfare Months

To stimulate community activities the holding of welfare months at social welfare centres has proved to be successful technique. During the month chosen, a health exhibition is held at the centre and officers of departments such as Agriculture, Health, Education, and Social Welfare give lectures and demonstrations to the people, drawing their attention to the problems of the village and suggesting solutions. Local women's associations, boys' clubs, co-operative societies and other welfare organizations are closely associated in the holding of these welfare months.

Women's Welfare

The development of women's associations is being encouraged, especially in the rural areas. The aim of these associations is to bring the women together to learn things which will be of help in their homes, to improve conditions in the village, and to develop a spirit of friendliness, co-operation and initiative. There were 54 such associations registered with the Social Welfare Department at the end of 1959.

Most of these associations run a sewing class for the benefit of the girls of the village and there is also a fortnightly sewing class held by a dressmaker employed by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund. In some places a handicraft class is held.

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The Mauritius Women's Institute, which was set up in 1955, has continued its good work. Its members pay regular visits to social welfare centres where they give talks and demonstrations and sometimes hold sewing classes. In some localities painting is also taught.

Four rural exhibitions were successfully organised by the women's associations in November and December.

Voluntary Workers' Conference

The social Welfare Department organises from time to time conferences of voluntary workers to discuss ways and means of developing the rural areas and raising the standard of living.

Treatment of Offenders

The probation system introduced in the Island in 1946 has made satisfactory progress. Probation applies to both juveniles and adults and it is worthy of note that more adults than juveniles pass through the hands of Probation officers. A certain amount of social work connected with the courts (e.g. settling matrimonial disputes, handling of difficult children, etc.), is also undertaken by Probation Officers, many of whom have been trained in the United Kingdom.

The probation service pays paticular attention to the prevention of delinquency. One means adopted is to urge youths in villages to take advantage of the amenities available in social welfare centres and thus put their leisure to profitable use.

Probationers are required to report to Probation Officers in social welfare centres, where these exist, instead of going to the Court. In a welfare centre the Probation officer can spend more time with the individual delinquent child and is in a better position to enforce rehabilitation measures than would otherwise be possible.

The first probation hostel for boys was opened in May, 1954. It is non-denominational, is managed by a representative committee, and can accommodate fifteen boys. There were fourteen boys at the end of the year in the hostel: they were regularly empoyed ouside the hostel, half of their earnings going towards their keep. Voluntary workers help the management in regard to the education and health of the inmates.

In the field of after-care, Probation Officers help with the rehabilitation of juveniles released from the Industrial School and from Borstal.

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Chapter 8: Legislation

Forty-six Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council and assented to by the Governor during the year 1959. The most important of these Ordinances are:—

The Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 1 of 1959)

This Ordinance *(a)* raises allowances in respect of earned income *(b)* increases deductions in respect of children receiving instruction outside the Colony and *(c)* lowers the ceiling of the rate of tax on chargeable income limiting it to 70%.

The Municipality (Transitional Provisions) Ordinance
The Town Councils (Transitional Provisions) Ordinance
(Nos. 2 and 3 of 1959)

These Ordinances postpone the date of the next General Election of Municipal Councillors and members of the Town Councils and extend the tenure of office of present Councillors and members accordingly pending the contemplated revision of the franchise for the Muncipality and the Town Councils.

The Executive Council and Legislative Council (Allowances) Ordinance
(No. 4 of 1959)

This Ordinance revises the allowances payable to members of the Executive Council and the Legislative Council and provides for an allowance to the Deputy Chairman of Committees of the Council.

The Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 13 of 1959)

This Ordinance empowers the Governor to appoint a Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies to assist the Registrar. It also enlarges the powers and privileges of registered co-operative societies.

The Town Councils (Constitution) (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 15 of 1959)

This Ordinance increases by three the number of elected members of each of the present three Town Councils. It also removes the former disqualification of members having interests in contracts with Town Councils and reproduces the United Kingdom local Government legislation relating to this matter: Members must disclose their interests and not take part in the proceedings when these contracts are discussed.

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The franchise is extended to all adult British subjects residing in the towns, however retaining qualifications based on ownership or occupation of business premises and on payment of house rate or tenants tax.

Disqualifications are the same as in corresponding provisions for the Legislative Council.

The Municipality (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 16 of 1959)

This Ordinance reproduces similar provisions as are contained in the Town Councils (Constitution) (Amendment) Ordinance except that there is no increase in the number of Councillors.

The Pool Betting Ordinance
(No. 17 of 1959)

This Ordinance provides for the control of bets by way of pool betting. It requires pool promoters and agents of foreign pool promoters to be licensed and to keep books and supply returns of transactions to the Accountant General. It allows for a duty of 20% to be levied on the stake money cashed by local pool promoters and a fixed duty on money cashed by agents of foreign pool promoters. It lays down the rules under which pool betting may be organised and forbids betting by and with persons under 21 years of age.

The Sugar Industry Reserve Funds Ordinance
(No. 20 of 1959)

This Ordinance consolidates the legislation relating to the Sugar Industry Reserve Funds and effects certain changes in the Constitution, administration and control of the various funds in the light of experience gained since they were established in 1948. The most important changes are *(a)* Each fund controlled by a Committee having powers of a body corporate *(b)* The Governor in Council is empowered to give directions as to policy to the Committees over which the Minister will have certain measure of control *(c)* Metayears may receive assistance from Sugar Millers' Rehabilitation Fund for certain purposes.

The Diplomatic Immunities and Privileges (Commonwealth Countries and Republic of Ireland) Ordinance
(No. 22 of 1959)

This Ordinance confers certain immunities and privileges on representatives of Commonwealth Countries and the Republic of Ireland.

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The Building (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 24 of 1959)

This Ordinance abolishes the Board of Appeal under the Building Ordinance and transfers appeals from decisions of the Director of Medical Services or the Authority under the Ordinance to the appropriate District Court.

The Executive Council (Transfer of Powers and Duties) (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 26 of 1959)

This Ordinance effects changes rendered necessary by the introduction of th ministerial system. Various matters hitherto vested in the Executive Council are transferred to the appropriate authorities.

The Central Electricity Board (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 27 of 1959)

This Ordinance enlarges the borrowing powers of the Central Electricity Board and authorises the payment of debts due by the Board by means of debentures and debenture stock. It regulates the issue, transfer and pledging of such debentures and debenture stock.

The Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 28 of 1959)

This Ordinance gives the Governor greater discretionary power to exempt ships from the obligation of having on board officers holding Certificates of Competency.

It also empowers regulations to be made in respect of carriage of dangerous goods by ship.

The Tea Industry Control Ordinance
(No. 29 of 1959)

This Ordinance creates a single and independent authority, the Tea Control Board, to exercise control over the development and maintenance of the tea industry and to set up and operate a marketing organisation for locally produced tea. It vests in the Board the sole right of buying and selling locally manufactured tea and establishes a Tea Fund for such operations and for the proper functioning of the Board.

The Money Lenders Ordinance
(No. 30 of 1959)

This Ordinance regulates money lending business and transactions. It requires licences to be taken out and books in required form to be kept by moneylenders. It fixes the maximum rates of interest for secured and unsecured loans. It affords protection to

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borrowers by compelling moneylenders to issue receipts on cash payment and to issue also on demand and at a nominal fee all particulars of any transaction. It empowers the Court to re-open any transaction and to grant any relief where the interest charged seems harsh and unconscionable.

The Revised Edition of the Laws Ordinance
(No. 31 of 1959)

This Ordinance provides that the Governor may appoint a Commissioner or Commissioners to prepare a new and revised edition of the laws of the Colony.

The Explosives Ordinance
(No. 34 of 1959)

This Ordinance provides for the control of the manufacture, import, export, purchase, sale, possession and use of explosives. It brings the legislation of Mauritius on the subject into line with that of other colonies and provides adequate safeguards for the public.

The Insurance Ordinance
(No. 43 of 1959)

This Ordinance provides that a Registrar of Insurance shall have control and supervision over all insurers carrying insurance business in the Colony. It requires insurers to be registered with the Registrar and to have a minimum paid up capital and solvency magin and to show that their business is carried on in accordance with sound insurance principles.

Life assurers who carry other insurance business are required to keep separate accounts; all life assurers must have their financial position investigated once every five years.

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Chapter 9 : Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

The Laws of Mauritius are mainly based on the French Codes, The Civil Code, the Penal Code, the Code of Commerce and the Code of Civil Procedure, with such amendments as have been made thereto to suit local conditions, are still to a large extent in force in the Colony. There are also a great number of Ordinances.

The Bankruptcy Law, the Company Law, the Law of Evidence and the Law of Criminal Procedure are, however, mostly English, as well as is the whole system of the Labour Laws.

The highest judicial authority is the Supreme Court of the Colony of Mauritius and its Dependencies consisting of the Chief Justice and three Puisne Judges.

The Executive Officer of that Court is the Master and Registrar, who is also a Judge of the Bankruptcy Division of the Court.

The Supreme Court is a superior Court of record and has the same powers, authority and jurisdiction as the High Court of Justice in England. It exercises jurisdiction in divorce matters and Admiralty jurisdiction in virtue of the Colonial Courts of Admiralty Act, 1890, and is also a Court of Equity. It has powers of supervision over all the other Courts of the Colony and hears appeals from the Supreme Court of the Colony of Seychelles in civil matters.

Appeals lie to the Privy Council in certain cases against judgments of the Supreme Court.

The Judges of the Supreme Court preside over the Assize Court, the verdict being returned by a jury of nine men; the decision must be that of at least seven out of the nine members.

Since the 1st January, 1955, there has been a Court of Criminal Appeal. The Chief Justice and the Judges of the Supreme Court are the Judges of that Court which is constituted by three Judges. That Court hears appeals from persons convicted before the Supreme Court.

The District Magistrates of the Colony have jurisdiction in civil cases in which the subject matter does not exceed Rs 3,000 in value. They hold judicial enquiries in cases of fire or accidental death, and preliminary enquiries in cases triable by the Assize Court. In addition they deal with certain matters in Chambers.

The summary jurisdiction of a District Court in criminal matters is vested in a District Magistrate who deals with the less serious offences and is empowered to sentence an accused party to imprisonment with or without hard labour, for a term not exceeding one year, and to a fine not exceeding Rs 1,000.

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Certain offences may be tried by an intermediary Court consisting of a Bench of three Magistrates who have power to impose a sentence of penal servitude of not more than three years and a sentence of imprisonment of not more than two years, and who may also impose any fine not exceeding the maximum provided by law for the offence dealt with by them.

There are now 14 Magistrates, of whom one administers justice in Rodrigues and is also Civil Commissioner for that Dependency.

A visiting Magistrate inspects once annually each of the Lesser Dependencies.

There is in addition an Industrial Court which is presided over by a Magistrate and which has exclusive jurisdiction—subject to appeal or review—in all labour disputes including workmen's compensation cases and matters arising out of factory legislation.

Administrative control of the Magistracy has, since 1945, been vested in the Chief Justice.

The majority of the civil cases brought before District Courts concern claims for money, or possession of tenement, or ownership of land.

On the criminal side, most of the cases, other than petty breaches of the law, relate to offences involving fraud, e.g. larceny, embezzlement, forgery, or swindling, or offences against the person, e.g., wounds and blows, indecent acts and assaults, or breaches of the road traffic laws.

During the year 39 cases were brought before the Court of Assizes. Two cases went before the Court of Criminal Appeal.

There were 484 civil cases entered before the Supreme Court, as compared with 500 in 1958. 419 cases were entered before the Industrial Court as compared with 880 in 1958, and 3,884 civil cases and 24,373 criminal cases were heard by the District Courts.

Police

Functions

The functions of the Mauritius Police Force are prescribed by section 14 of the Police Ordinance (Cap. 312). They include preserving the public peace, the prevention and detection of crimes, misdemeanours and contraventions, the regulation of road traffic, the execution of warrants and summonses issued by the Courts, and the conduct of prosecutions in Court.

In addition to their primary task of maintaining law and order, the Police are responsible for the control of immigration and emigration, weights and measures, the issue of certain licences and the collection of the fees therefor, the supervision of licensed premises, and other extraneous duties.

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Strength

The Police Force consists of a Commissioner of Police, and of such other Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Constables as the Legislature may authorise from time to time. The authorised establishment of the Force at the 31st December, 1959, was 35 officers and 1,187 other ranks; its actual strength was 28 officers and 1,141 other ranks. In addition 28 Police Women are employed on clerical work.

Organization

The Commissioner of Police, assisted by the Deputy Commissioner of Police and other officers, has his Headquarters at Line Barracks in Port Louis.

The personnel of the Force is distributed between:

(a) Police Headquarters and the following Branches or Sections:

(i) The Forensic Science Laboratory
(ii) The Criminal Investigation Division
(iii) The Immigration and Passport Section
(iv) The Road Traffic Branch
(v) The Transport and Communications Section
(vi) The Training School and Reserve
(vii) The Band
(viii) The Railway Police
(ix) The Water Police
(x) The Pay and Quartermaster's Branch
(xi) The Rodrigues Police.

(b) Six Police Districts, controlling 48 stations and posts.

The Forensic Science Laboratory

This important institution was set up in 1938 and maintains a high degree of professional competence. It is under the charge of the Police Medical Officer, who is assisted by a suitably trained staff.

The Laboratory deals with the scientific examination of exhibits, the examination of documents and the identification of handwriting and typewriting in relation to cases of forgery and kindred offences. It also deals with any other aspect of crimes requiring scientific investigation.

The Criminal Investigation Division

This Division is responsible for the investigation of serious crimes and cases of a special nature such as frauds and defalcations. It assists the District Police when necessary and collates the statistics of crime for the whole Island. To the C.I.D. are attached the Finger

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Print and *Modus Operandi* Bureau, the Central Records of Habitual Criminals, the Firearm Licences section and the Registered Bicycles section.

Finger Print and Modus Operandi Bureau. During the year 404 scenes were visited by the staff and articles bearing finger prints were brought to the Finger Print Office by the District Police in 327 cases. Decipherable prints were found in 115 cases and 41 identifications were made. In six cases finger prints were the sole evidence available against the accused parties. In 22 cases documents bearing finger prints were referred to the Finger Print Office and in fourteen cases identity was established. The finger print slips of 15,896 criminals (male and female) are on record. The " scene of crime " collection contains 148 photographs of unidentified prints found at scenes of crime. The palm print collection contains 2,174 prints. 543 criminals are on the Findex System.

Photographic Section. The photographic work done by the section during the year was of valuable assistance: 7,616 photographs supplied by the section included 207 crime scenes and 90 scenes of fatal or serious accidents. 940 criminals were photographed, and 14 dead bodies were photographed to assist identification. 262 photographs were also supplied for warrant cards issued to members of the Force and special constables.

Habitual Criminals. Supervision is maintained over habitual criminals and bad characters who are sentenced to police supervision by the Courts. There were 2,076 re-convicted male criminals in the Island, including 126 first offenders re-convicted during the year.

Firearms. Firearms are strictly controlled. The number of firearms licensed during the year was 5,866.

Other duties of the C.I.D. The Vice, Fraud and Flying Squads of the C.I.D., among their other duties, help generally in the whole Island as regards the enforcement of the laws relating to dangerous drugs, gambling, prostitution, illicit distillation, illegal transport and manufacture of rum and liquor, shop hours (Liquor), distilleries, illegal slaughtering, private clubs.

Dangerous Drugs. A total of 181 cases under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance were prosecuted by the Police during the year, of which 147 were for possession of gandia, 17 for cultivation of the plant, 17 for possession of prepared opium or utensils used for the smoking of opium. 22,096 plants of gandia were uprooted and secured. 34.85875 kgs of gandia and 89 grams of gandia seed were secured as well as 4 pipes for smoking and 465 grams of prepared opium.

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The Immigration and Passport Section

During the year, 1,826 passports were issued, 381 renewed and 181 visaed. 54 emergency certificates of nationality, 4 collective passports, and 22 Seaman's certificates of nationality and identity were issued and 64 forms of affidavit in lieu of passport were registered. The immigration staff attended 388 ships arriving in Port Louis and 267 aircraft at Plaisance Airport. 9,453 persons entered the Colony, including 237 immigrants, and 9,396 left, including 163 emigants.

Road Traffic Branch

The Road Traffic Branch is responsible for driving tests and the issue of drivers' licences, and the examination of motor vehicles as to fitness and roadworthiness: 10,453 vehicles were tested, and 2,995 persons took driving tests, of whom 1,067 were successful.

The number of registered motor vehicles increased from 12,284 in 1958 to 13,172 at the end of 1959. There were 3,294 accidents as compared with 3,442 in 1958. When the increase in the volume of traffic on the road is taken into account, the figure of 3,294 shows good improvement. The following steps were taken to reduce the number of accidents: widening and surface-repairing of roads, improvement of parking arrangements, more numerous mobile and foot patrols and speed checks, and education of drivers and pedestrians. The traffic Branch delivered lectures on road safety to 64,220 school children.

Transport and Communications Branch

The Transport and Communications Branch has under its control a Transport Unit and a radio-telephone network. The Transport Unit consists of:—

Motor Cycles	... ...	25
Land Rovers	... ...	19
Vans and Light Trucks	...	9
Prisoners' Vans	... ...	3
Lorries	... ...	8 (including a mobile canteen)
Motor cars	... ...	24 (including 19 W/T cars)
Cyclemasters	... ...	18 (including 5 Norman Nippy autocycles)

The radio-telephone network operates on VHF. At the Information or Control Room situated at Police Headquarters are two 15 watt VHF transmitter-receivers: the first set controls directly the W/T cars operating in the town of Port Louis and the second set remotely operates a 50 watt VHF repeater station which is situated on the highlands of Curepipe. From Curepipe signals are re-radiated to most parts of the Island. Fourteen police stations have already been equipped with static sets and steps are being taken for equipping ten more.

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All Police Stations and Branches are linked by telephone. P.B.Xs. are installed at the six Police District Headquarters to enable inter-communication between stations in Districts.

Training

Recruits between the ages of 19 and 25 are enlisted after undergoing educational and medical examinations. With the institution of the Police Service Commission under the Mauritius (Constitution) (Amendment) Order in Council, 1959, all recruitment for the Force is now made by that Commission.

The Training School, which is a residential institution, aims at training members of the Force on the same lines as in the United Kingdom and at fostering in them such qualities as tact, patience, tolerance, good humour, initiative, and ability to rely on their own judgement and resources. Recruits joining the Training School normally go through a six months' course which includes adequate instruction in laws, police duties and procedure, general knowledge, first aid, elementary drill, riot drill, physical training, self-defence, and swimming. They undergo theoretical training for the first three months, and practical training, including station and street duties, during the second half of the course. Lectures on medical jurisprudence, first aid and hygiene are delivered by the Police Medical Officer.

The Band

The Mauritius Police Band which was first established in 1921 is a full military brass band, made up of trained musicians. There issued out of it in 1947 a dance orchestra, which has since been in fairly regular demand at balls and social gatherings and for stage productions. The Band had 271 engagements, of which 80 were official, and its total earnings amounted to Rs 20,040.58 which accrued to the Police Band Fund. The band also collaborated in the production of two operas which featured singers from the Scala of Milan and the Opera of Paris.

The Railway Police

An Inspector, a Sergeant and nine Constables are attached to the Railway Department as a special Force to deal with offences committed on the Railway.

The Water Police

The Water Police are under the orders of the Superintendent of Police, Port Louis. The unit comprises one Sergeant and nine Constables. It is equipped with a 15 H.P. motor launch and a wireless R/T set. The unit regularly patrols Port Louis Harbour

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and sees to the maintenance of law and order and compliance with harbour regulations. Its duties include preventing persons from stowing away, assisting in the enforcement of immigration and quarantine laws, supervising the unloading of cattle, and preventing smuggling. During the year the Water Police attended 406 ships in harbour.

The Pay and Quartermaster's Branch

This Branch is divided into two Sections: the Pay Section and the Store Section, the latter under the special charge of the Assistant Pay and Quartermaster. The Pay Section is responsible for all the financial transactions and accounting of the Force and for the collection of inland revenue. The Store Section deals with indents for materials, the manufacture and issue of uniforms for all ranks, and the supply generally of stores and accoutrements to the Force.

The Rodrigues Police

The Rodrigues Police, under the orders of an Assistant Superintendent, is responsible for the maintenance of law and order in the dependency. The authorised establishment is one Officer and 30 other ranks.

Special Constabulary

In accordance with section 47 of the Police Ordinance (Cap. 312) special constables may be appointed at any time. A start was made in 1955 with the enrolment and training of 100 special constables on the lines of the Special Constabulary in Great Britain. In 1959 the approved strength was 30 Officers and 200 other ranks.

First Aid: St. John Ambulance Association

Courses of instruction in First Aid are given to members of the Force, the Railway Department, the Government Fire Service and pupils of the Royal College. All lectures are delivered by qualified medical officers or lay lecturers, with the assistance of instructors for practical demonstration in accordance with the regulations of the St. John Ambulance Overseas. Examinaions were held during the year and 620 members of the Police Force are now qualified and hold the St. John's certificate.

A Mauritius Police Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade has been formed and registered at the Overseas Headquarters in the U.K. Another Division with members of the Government Fire Service was under formation at the close of the year.

The Home Nursing Division which was registered and approved on the 1st April, 1952, has a strength of 28.

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Games, Recreation and Welfare

As much time as possible is devoted to the playing of games and to recreation generally. The Force possesses good football, basket ball, volley ball and hockey teams. Inter-district and friendly matches with local teams are frequently played. A start has been made with boxing and swimming.

The Officers, Inspectorate, N.C.Os and Constables each have their own mess and recreation rooms. A well-stocked canteen is open to all ranks of the Force. The Police Band contributes to official and demi-official functions in the various messes and institutions of the Force.

A library and reading room is open daily to members of the Force and to public subscribers. Books, reviews, and newspapers are regularly imported and are circulated throughout the Colony among members of the Force posted at out-stations in the country districts. The stock of English and French books in the library is 12,124.

A Police Federation of all ranks from Inspector to Constable advises on matters concerning the welfare and efficiency of its members, other than matters of discipline and promotions affecting individuals.

Honours and Awards

The Colonial Police Long-Service Medal was awarded to 25 members of the Force, the 1st clasp to 9 members and the 2nd clasp to one other member.

Offences

The number of offences reported to the Police in 1959 was as follows:—

Crimes ...	...	899
Misdemeanours	...	16,563
Contraventions ...	...	25,645
TOTAL	...	43,107

PRISONS

Functions of the Prisons Department

The principal duty of the Prisons Department is to maintain in safe custody the offenders delivered to its care. Every possible effort is made, however, by education, training in crafts, the issue of books and periodicals, the showing of educational films and the grant of privileges for good behaviour, in order to instill into the prisoners a sense of dignity, of self-respect and of duty towards the community and country such as will enable them to re-enter the outside world as useful citizens on completion of their sentence.

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Functions of the Prisons Department

There are four institutions in the colony dealing with persons received from the courts:

(a) Central Prison, Beau Bassin, which includes a Women's Section;

(*b*) Borstal Institution, Grand River North West;

(c) Industrial School, Beau Bassin;

(d) Richelieu Rehabilitation Centre.

Central Prison

Beau Bassin Prison consists of two-storey blocks with a capacity to accommodate 980 prisoners in separate cells and a remand block having six large communal and six separate cells accommodating 50 prisoners, the average number of prisoners for the year being 457. There are also workshops where the following trades are taught: blacksmithing, tinsmithing, carpentry (3 shops), tailoring, shoe-making, basketry, mat-making, and book-binding. There is also a concrete block-making industry and the erection of new buildings is carried out by prisoners. There are two hospital wards, together with stores and isolation wards.

The administrative headquarters of the service are situated in the Central Prison, at which all prisoners, both male and female, are received and discharged.

Within the men's prison at Beau Bassin there are now six yards laid out with flower beds and lawns where prisoners can associate for meals and leisure. Prisoners are segregated according to classification in the different yards:—

No. 1 Yard—Felon Recidivists
No. 2 Yard—Ordinary Recidivists
No. 3 Yard—Punishment Yard
No. 4 Yard—Stars (First offenders, all ages)
No. 5 Yard—Young prisoners (17–23 years)
No. 6 Yard—Remand Yard.

The classes are kept segregated as far as possible while at work. There is also in operation a grade system whereby a prisoner may by good behaviour pass successively from Probationary to 3rd, 2nd and 1st Grade, each grade having certain privileges, such as extra books, longer time in association and the playing of games.

Young prisoners now undergo recreational training under a trained instructor, morning and afternoon. There are also three voluntary recreational classes each evening. A qualified school

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teacher is attached to the Department and takes three voluntary educational classes each evening after prison labour has ceased.

A cinema show is given inside the prison twice a month, when films of topical and educational interest are shown. During week-ends the football pitch outside the prison is used by prisoners. About 200 prisoners enjoy this privilege each week, excluding those who go out as spectators. Prisoners now have their own football team which play against civilian teams on Wednesday evenings, when about 200 prisoner spectators are permitted to attend. Volley-ball pitches and a basket-ball pitch inside the prison walls are in use daily after labour.

The number of unofficial visitors, both to the men's and women's prisons, has increased.

The women prisoners are housed in the women's prison which was opened in May 1951. It adjoins the main prison but has a separate entrance. The grounds are attractively laid out with lawns, flowers and a vegetable plot. A large number of fruit trees and flowering shrubs has been planted. The inmates, who are few in number, are taught sewing and gardening. Mat-weaving is also taught by unofficial visitors.

Borstal Institution

The Borstal Institution which provides minimum security accommodates about 125 youths. It is run on the lines of a United Kingdom Borstal Institution.

The inmates are classified into the ordinary, probationary and special grades; there is also a penal grade for boys under punishment. Apart from being classified according to statutory requirements, the inmates are divided into three " houses " (Red, Blue and White) with a view to fostering competition.

The lads receive daily instruction in carpentry, tinsmithing, tailoring, cooking, boot and shoe-making and gardening. In addition educational and physical training classes are conducted by a qualified teacher.

Educational films are shown and explained to the lads twice monthly and outdoor games are organised each evening. Lads of the special and probationary grades go to the seaside three times a week to enjoy swimming. Football matches are played against outside teams and there has been the usual annual sports day. The boys attended their camp in September.

A Borstal Visiting Committee meets monthly and, among other things, decides on questions of release.

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Industrial School

The School has accommodation for about 200 boys and is run on the lines of an English Approved School.

Boys up to the age of 18 years are catered for. The senior boys are divided into " houses " (Red, White, and Blue), while the juniors (under 14) are separately accommodated and fed in Yellow House. A monthly " house " competition is run, when points are given for conduct, cleanliness and upkeep of the house gardens.

All junior boys attend school daily for four hours under qualified teachers and receive primary school instruction up to the 5th standard. After the 5th Standard, boys who are still of school age attend an ordinary Government primary school. Senior boys who are illiterate attend school three evenings a week.

All boys do daily physical training under a qualified instructor and in addition take part in organised games. Films of educational value are shown and commented on by the Visual Education Officer and lectures on citizenhip, forestry electricity and animal husbandry have been given by experts who have offered their services to help the boys. Instruction in tinsmithing, brushmaking, shoemaking, carpentry, cooking and gardening is given to the boys in accordance with their aptitudes.

The School drum-and-fife band is popular and always appreciated. All boys have an opportunity of spending a fortnight under canvas at the sea-side.

The Richelieu Rehabilitation Centre

A rehabilitation Centre, designed for short and long term first offenders, was opened on the first July, 1958. Thirty-five selected prisoners, under the control and supervision of one Assistant Superintendent, one Principal Officer and seven officers were transferred to the Centre and accommodated under canvas. The response of the inmates housed at the Centre has been beyond expectation.

Efforts have been concentrated on the erection of buildings and, apart from the clearing of limited areas, no serious step has yet been taken for the erection of a model farm. At the rate the existing buildings have been erected it can well be expected that the building programme may be completed by the end of next year, when a definite move will be made towards agricultural activities.

The building programme completed during the year consisted of one gate lodge, two dormitories, a cookhouse with an adjoining dining hall, an ablution block and accommodation for a 12 H.P. Lister power plant which supplies electricity to all the buildings. The main office block was nearing completion at the end of the year.

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The dormitories are provided with canvas beds and bedside tables.

The kitchen is provided with four Alfa Pressure Cookers, concrete swills and tables, modern washhand basins with taps and a provision store.

The dining room adjoining the kitchen is based on the " Cafeteria " system as in the U.K., and is fitted with tables and stools.

Religious and educational facilities are afforded to the prisoners.

Prison Discipline

During 1959 six reports were dealt with by the Prison Board and 596 by the Commissioner.

Remissions

All prisoners sentenced to imprisonment, whether by one sentence or by consecutive sentences, for a period of not less than 30 days, are entitled to have one-third of their sentence remitted.

No payment has yet been made for prison labour, but an earnings scheme is in operation.

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Chapter 10: Public Utilities and Public Works

Central Electricity Board

Electricity

The Central Electricity Board, which is the only electricity undertaking in Mauritius, has continued to implement its policy of extending the supply of electricity thoughout the Island.

During the year, work continued on Stage I of the *Eau Bleue* Hydro-Electric scheme, the civil engineering works being carried out by the Public Works Department. The Scheme was nearing completion at the end of the year and is due for commissioning early in 1960. The capacity of this first stage of the scheme will be 4,000 KW, with an output of 9 million units per annum.

At the same time work proceeded on the Magenta Hydro-electric scheme which will have a capacity of 1,000 KW, with an output of 4 million units per annum and this station is also expected to be completed early in 1960. The *La Ferme* hydro generating station was commissioned in May, 1959, with an installed capacity of 1,200 KW and an output of 3 million units per annum.

The Board has continued to purchase surplus power from sugar estate factories during the crop season and, in 1959, some 8½ million units were taken by the Board from this source. The figure is likely to rise to 13 million units in 1960. The total installed capacity of all plant, and units generated during the year, were as follows:—

	Kw		*Units*	
Hydro :—				
Tamarind Falls	8,000		24,201,550	
Réduit	600		2,899,193	
Cascade Cécile	310		858,190	
La Ferme	1,200		1,790,900	
Riche-en-Eau	300		573,830	
Bois Chéri	70		200,380	
		10,480		30,524,043
Thermal-C.E.B. :—				
St. Louis	7,000		16,322,010	
Sack Factory	500		200,810	
		7,500		16,522,820
Thermal-Sugar Estates and Dry Docks:—				
St. Antoine	250		590,920	
F.U.E.L.	3,000		4,594,400	
Savannah	1,200		2,635,000	
Medine	750		1,000,600	
Dry Docks	200		3,645	
		5,400		8,824,665
TOTAL ...		23,380		55,871,428

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The Board possesses its own manufacturing plant for concrete poles which are used for high and low voltage overhead line distribution, and 1,711 poles of various sizes were produced in 1959. A total of 85 miles of high and low voltage lines were installed during the year. At the end of the year, the number of consumers connected to the system was 45,842, representing an increase of 10.8 per cent over the figure for 1958. Units generated amounted to 55,871,428, compared with 48,898,084 units in 1958: an increase of 14.3 per cent.

WATER SUPPLIES

Domestic Water Supplies

The principal sources of domestic water supplies are Mare-aux-Vacoas, Grand River North West and Piton du Milieu.

The supply from Mare-aux-Vacoas is derived from a storage reservoir of 597 million cubic feet capacity at an elevation of 1,850 feet above sea level and provides water for about half the population of the Island. It serves the district of Plaines Wilhems and parts of the districts of Moka, Black River and Port Louis. Important works of improvement to this water supply are being carried out further to extend the supply and to meet the increased demand due to the growth of population and to the rise in the standard of living. Consumption in 1959 reached a maximum of 11,904,000 gallons per day. The total consumption for the year was 3,829,238,000 gallons. The water is filtered and chlorinated before distribution. One new filter was brought into operation in 1959 and the works begun to raise the dam and increase the storage capacity of the reservoir to 975 M.C.F. are still in progress.

The Grand River North West water supply is derived from the river of that name at an elevation of about 250 feet above sea level. The supply amounts to 5,000,000 gallons per day. It is managed by the Municipality of Port Louis and serves exclusively the town of Port Louis with a population of about 90,000. The water is filtered and chlorinated before use. Works are in progress to increase the supply to 8,000,000 gallons.

The Piton du Milieu reservoir is now in operation and provides water to localities in the North, East and South of the Island comprising the districts of Rivière du Rempart, Flacq, Grand Port, Savanne and part of Moka, gradually replacing former unsatisfactory supply sources. The new supply is derived from a storage reservoir of 110 million cubic feet capacity at an elevation of 1,435 feet. The reservoir was completed at the end of 1953, and

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the filters were put into operation in December. The reservoir supplies 4,000,000 gallons per day to a population of about 143,000 inhabitants.

The supply system now covers nearly the whole of the area to be served and an extension of the supply to the villages on the coast between Grand River South East and Vieux Grand Port has been completed.

Irrigation

Irrigation is carried out in the Black River District from *La Ferme* reservoir and in the Districts of Pamplemousses and Rivière du Rempart from *La Nicolière* reservoir.

La Ferme reservoir at an elevation of 450 feet above sea level, has a capacity of 417 million cubic feet and serves to irrigate at present 1,500 acres. Additional supplies are being derived from Mare-aux-Vacoas, Mare Longue and Tamarind Falls reservoirs by means of the Magenta Canal (completed in 1954) which irrigates a further 2,500 acres.

La Nicolière reservoir, at an elevation of 800 feet above sea level, has a capacity of 200 million cubic feet and serves to irrigate about 1,000 acres of land. The reservoir is linked to Midlands by the Midlands—La Nicolière Feeder Canal 17 miles long.

Hydro-Electric Power

Water for hydro-electric purposes is supplied from three reservoirs:

(a) the Mare-aux-Vacoas reservoir mentioned above;

(b) the Mare Longue reservoir of a storage capacity of 200 million cubic feet at an elevation of 1,900 feet above sea level;

(c) the Tamarind Falls reservoir of a storage capacity of 72 million cubic feet at an elevation of 1,625 feet above sea level.

The three reservoirs are situated in the catchment area of the Tamarind river and supply water to a power station situated at 960 feet below the Taramind Falls reservoir. After going through the power station, water passes through the Magenta Canal and is used for irrigation purposes in the Black River district. A new power station is being built between Tamarind Falls and Magenta Canal.

Work on the hydro-electric project at Eau Bleue was started early in 1955 and continued in 1959. The scheme provides for the construction of an earth dam of approximately 8.65 million cubic feet and the storage of 220 million cubic feet of water. The site of the reservoir is on River Eau Bleue near Midlands. A fall of 600 feet

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is available by cutting through a ridge separating the reservoir site from *Le Val* where the power station is situated. By the end of the year the earth dam was completed, the outlet works and spillway were nearing completion. The power station building has been constructed and the installation of the power plant is in progress.

The power station will have an output capacity of about 5 million KWH per annum making use of the flow of River Eau Bleue alone. By supplementing the flow of River Eau Bleue by that of Rivers Citron and du Poste, the output of the power station may be increased to 9 million KWH per annum. The total output can further be increased to 13 million units by diverting part of Grand River South East into the reservoir. The diversion canal for the latter work has been started.

Public Works

Under the general control of the Minister of Works the Public Works and Surveys Department is responsible for:

(a) the maintenance and/or construction of (i) all Government works in connection with water supplies, roads, bridges, cemeteries, quays and machinery at the Harbour, (ii) Military Works on behalf of the Military Authorities and (iii) Government buildings costing not more than Rs 10,000;

(b) the management of all Crown lands and lands forming part of the domaine public, and the acquisition of land for public purposes;

(c) the leasing of sand quarries;

(d) the valuation and the inspection of all lands pledged to Government, the assessment of damage caused by fire to canefields or other properties and the assessment of compensation for property acquired;

(e) advice to Government on public works and all questions relating to the other functions of the Department.

The supply of materials from overseas was regular during the year and good progress was made in the development of the water works undertaken by the Department.

Maintenance work was also carried out without any difficulty.

Much attention was given to the maintenance and improvement of roads.

Meteorology

The Meteorological Department provides for all climatological and weather services for the Colony and for international requirements. Six main reporting stations regularly provide full observ-

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ations from each of the four scattered groups of islands forming the Dependencies and from the airfield and the central plateaux in Mauritius. These observations are broadcast seven times daily to Africa, Asia and Australia. About 5,000 weather reports are collected each year from ships at sea.

The headquarters at Vacoas provides forecasting services for international air and sea routes across the south Indian Ocean and for local purposes. This office also carries out the important function of a hurricane warning centre for a large part of the surrounding ocean and islands. The daily weather maps covered, as far as possible, the whole of the Indian Ocean and surrounding continents between 15° N and 50° S. Administration, investigations and research are also centred at Vacoas.

In addition to the main reporting stations the Department maintains, or co-operates with other local authorities in maintaining, three minor reporting stations at Port Louis Harbour, Flat Island, and Peros Banhos Island, 250 rainfall stations, twenty sunshine recorders and six local recording anemometers to obtain records mainly required for local purposes. Although numerous and varied enquiries from local and overseas authorities were dealt with, the main emphasis in climatology has continued to be laid upon the requirements of agriculture, hydrology and constructional engineering.

Mauritius is a Member of the World Meteorological Organisation and also plays its part in other international organizations, such as the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy and the International Civil Aviation Organization. During 1959, Mauritius regularly supplied data to Geneva for the year of Geophysical International Co-operation.

The Granary

The Granary, which was completed in 1933, is a two-storeyed building of ferro-concrete and brick and covers an area of 1½ acres. It adjoins a Lighter Quay, 389 feet long, served by six electrically-operated hoists which lift bagged grain from lighters at the quay to the top floor of the building, which is operated as a Customs transit shed. From the top floor grain is delivered by gravity chutes to the first and ground floors which are divided into twelve and six separate stores respectively. Other gravity chutes connect the first floor with the delivery yard at the rear of the building.

The Granary Ordinance (Cap. 64) prescribes that all grain (which includes rice, dholl, lentils, gram, peas and other cereal which may be declared grain for that purpose by Proclamation),

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shall be discharged from ships to lighters and conveyed to the Granary for storage. The Ordinance limits the amount of grain which may be stored elsewhere than at the Granary.

The building was designed and erected with the object of protecting grain against contamination and destruction by pests, particularly rodents, and all entrances, exits and personnel lifts are operated with this in view.

All grain is stored in the Granary in bags: there is no bulk storage. Pest infestation is prevented as far as possible by spraying insecticide by means of an apparatus provided for that purpose. Measures against white ants and termites are carried out by a local firm under contract and stores are regularly fumigated by the Health Department.

After allowing for passages necessary for the effective use of the disinfecting apparatus, storage capacity is sufficient for approximately 450,000 bags of grain.

The Granary Department, which is responsible for the administration and maintenance of the building, is under the control of the Granary Superintendent who is also the Comptroller of Customs. Handling and stacking of grain is carried out by contract labour. During the year 1958–59, 49,337 tons of rice and 5,104 tons of other grain were handled.

Government Fire Services

The functions of the Fire Services are prescribed in section 4 of the Fire Services Ordinance (No. 56 of 1953) and consist in taking all available measures with a view to extinguishing fires and to protecting life and property in case of fires in any area except the District and Town of Port Louis, where the Municipal Council is the responsible authority.

The Department comprises an administrative office in Port Louis and six fire stations at Curepipe, Rose Hill, Quatre Bornes, Rivière des Anguilles, Mahébourg and Piton. On the 31st December, 1959, the staff was composed of 1 Controller (part time), 1 Office Supervisor, 1 Chief Officer, 1 Deputy Chief Officer, 2 Station Officers, 20 Sub-Officers, 22 Leading Firemen, 140 Firemen and a clerical staff of four.

The number of fire calls attended to was 340, the same figure as in the previous year. The loss caused by fire, excluding the Port Louis municipal area, was estimated at Rs 1,407,137 compared with Rs 551,980 in 1958. Appliances on fire calls covered 10,764 vehicle miles.

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Within the area covered by the Service there were at the end of the year 984 fire hydrants, including 71 new hydrants installed during the year.

The number of requests for the attendance of firemen during performances of stage plays was 116 and the attendance fees collected during the year amounted to Rs 2,636.

In accordance with Regulation 4(2) of the Inflammable Liquids and Substances Regulations (Government Notice No. 179 of 1953) 13 certificates were issued by the Controller of Fire Services to the effect that the premises on which filling stations would operate are adequately protected against fire.

Fire appliances in nearly all Government buildings and cinema halls were tested.

Thirty-two requests for pumping on sugar estates and private premises were attended to and fees for these attendances amounted to Rs 1,751.97.

The average cost per man in the Service during the year was Rs 4,739 while the cost of the Service per head of population (excluding the inhabitants of Port Louis) was Rs 1.80. The total revenue collected in 1958–59 was Rs 66,377.

The mobile appliances with which the various fire stations were equipped included 9 fire engines, 4 large and 12 small trailer pumps, 6 water lorries, 1 water trailer, 3 cars, 1 lorry, 2 foam vans, 6 hose carriers, 2 Land Rovers, 1 " scooter " motor cycle and 2 bicycles.

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Chapter 11 : Communications

Shipping

Port Louis, the capital of the Island, is also the only port. Ten ocean-going and four small vessels can be accommodated at any one time.

Vessels are normally moored at buoys in the harbour, though two quays are available, one of 492 feet and able to take a vessel of 30 feet draft and one of 390 feet for vessels of drafts up to 17 feet. Both coal and oil bunkers are available in limited quantities; there is a good supply of fresh water.

Regular cargo services are provided from the United Kingdom by the British and Commonwealth Shipping Company Limited and the Ellerman Lines, and from continental and French Mediterranean ports by the French Companies *Messageries Maritimes* and *Nouvelle Compagnie Havraise Péninsulaire*. The Scindia Steamship Co. is now operating a monthly service from Bombay to Mauritius and West Africa.

Passenger services direct from the United Kingdom to Mauritius are infrequent. The French vessels from Marseilles to Mauritius provide the better service.

The Dutch *Royal Interocean Line* vessels call at Port Louis regularly on the Far East, South Africa and South America service, thereby providing a regular passenger and cargo service to and from the Far East and South Africa. Passengers wishing to travel to the United Kingdom usually tranship from the Dutch vessels to the Union Castle Line at Durban.

A total of 406 vessels entered Port Louis harbour during the year, with a total net registered tonnage of 1,384,967 tons. Of these 406 vessels, 161 were of British registry, 66 French, 65 Dutch, 26 Norwegian, one Swedish, two United States, one Italian, four Panamanian, nine Liberian, 24 Japanese, 13 Indian, 15 German, one Danish, two Finnish, six Greek, one Yugoslav, two U.S.S.R., five S. African, one Ethiopian and one Portuguese.

There are four small vessels on the local register. Three of them are employed on services to the dependencies of Mauritius and the fourth, M.V. *Mauritius*, a 1,165 NET cargo and passenger liner, is employed on runs to the dependencies, Madagascar, South and East Africa and Australia. These vessels have a combined net registered tonnage of 2,160.

During the year 4,002 passengers entered the Colony by sea and 3,991 left the Island.

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Civil Aviation

There is only one airport in Mauritius. It is situated at Plaisance, in the south-east of the Island about three miles from the coast, and is managed by the Civil Aviation Department of the Mauritius Government.

Air France have scheduled " Super Constellation " services twice weekly between Paris and Mauritius via Nairobi, Madagascar and Reunion. *Qantas Empire Airways* provide a fortnightly scheduled " Super Constellation " service between Sydney and Johannesburg via Melbourne, Perth, Cocos Islands and Mauritius and from South Africa to Australia via the same route. *South African Airways* operate a fortnightly scheduled service between Johannesburg and Perth along the same route, alternating with the Qantas flights.

No aircraft is based in Mauritius and no internal services exist.

The meteorological services at the airport are under the control of the Director of Observatory, who is responsible for providing forecasts and all other meteorological information required; meteorological observers are stationed at the airport.

Apart from normal air-ground communication services, daily point-to-point schedules were maintained throughout 1959 with East Africa (Nairobi), Madagascar, South Africa, Réunion and Cocos Islands.

The total number of landings and take-offs at Plaisance airport during the year amounted to 563. The number of incoming and outgoing passengers was 13,340, including 1,657 passengers in transit as compared with 11,878 during 1958. Incoming and outgoing freight amounted to 91,304 kilos and mails carried to 42,030 kilos.

The total amount of aviation spirit and oil used for refuelling aircraft amounted to 625,690 Imperial gallons and 5,807 Imperial gallons respectively.

Railways

The public railway system of Mauritius (4'–8½" gauge) is operated by the Government. The railway network has 82 miles of line varying between sea level and an altitude of 1,800 feet. By law heavy goods (manufactured sugar, fertilizers, coal and gunny bags) must be transported by rail. The last of the regular passenger services was run on the 31st March, 1956.

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The deficit on the working of the railways amounted to Rs 1,516,136 for the financial year 1958–59.

Statistics for the financial year ended the 30th June, 1959, are as follows:

Length of line open to traffic	Miles	
Goods Traffic :		
Sugar	Tons	438,362
Sugar Cane	Tons	2,001
General Merchandise	Tons	48,794
Goods Traffic Receipts :		
Sugar	Rs	3,403,980
Sugar Cane	Rs	3,082
General Merchandise	Rs	243,651
Train Mileage	Train Miles	111,932
Receipts per Train Mile	Rs	35.29
Expenditure per Train Mile	Rs	50.84
Road Motor Service:		
Total Passenger Vehicle Miles	...Vehicle Miles	130,011
Passengers carried	Number	360,889
Passenger Receipts	Rs	95,723
Parcels carried	Number	516
Parcels receipts	Rs	155
Goods Traffic:		
Sugar	Tons	31,389
General Merchandise	Tons	11,418
Goods Receipts :		
Sugar	Rs	197,124
General Merchandise	Rs	60,324
Number of vehicles in service:		
10 lorries and 8 trailers		
1 dual purpose vehicle		
2 buses		

Roads

Mauritius is provided with an extensive road system, consisting of some 744.5 miles of public main and branch roads, most of which are suitable for motor traffic. All the roads are metalled and about 438.5 miles are bitumen coated. Pactically all the main roads are open to heavy motor vehicles, but owing to the rapid development of road traffic during the past twenty years many of the roads are too narrow for moderately fast transport to operate in safety. There are also some blind corners and very populous villages to travel through, while the roads are further congested by slow moving goods transport and the large public transport vehicles.

The maintenance of proclaimed main and branch roads continued in the normal manner and improvements were carried out to some of the existing tarred surfaces. An additional 34.5 miles of roads was asphalted.

The Public Works Department is responsible for the maintenance of proclaimed roads and District Councils are responsible for the maintenance of unproclaimed roads.

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Road Transport

There were 13,291 motor vehicles registered in the Island in 1959 as compared with 12,286 in 1958, classified as:

Private cars	7,355
Lorries	2,659
Taxis	1,153
Buses	488
Motor Cycles	969
Tractors	214
Government Vehicles	453

The figure for private cars includes 270 vans and 89 jeeps, licensed as private cars and the figure for lorries includes 480 licensed as carriers.

The bus fleets had increased to a total of 423 vehicles in use at the end of 1959. The repair, maintenance, and construction of coachwork improved. An average of 112,000 passengers travelled daily by bus.

There were 2,659 goods vehicles in use in 1959—an increase of 143 over the preceding year's figure. They are used mainly in connection with sugar industry for conveying cane to the factories and other materials to sugar estates. The trend towards replacing tramway haulage in the cane fields by motor vehicles and the extended acreage under cultivation have no doubt contributed substantially to the increase in the number of vehicles licensed.

Vehicle Licensing

The annual licence duties payable in respect of motor vehicles are as follows:

	Rs
(a) Motor cycles, per H.P.	6
(b) Private cars, per H.P.	8
(c) (i) Taxis not exceeding 10 H.P.	108
(ii) For every additional H.P.	8
(d) (i) Motor buses not more than 10 H.P. and having a seating capacity for not more than 20 passengers	512
(ii) For every additional H.P.	8
(e) (i) Private Motor Lorries not exceeding 10 H.P. ...	200
(ii) Public Carriers not exceeding 10 H.P.	300
(iii) For every additional H.P.	8
(iv) Per metric ton of maximum gross weight or fraction thereof	40

Public Service and goods vehicles are licensed quarterly at proportional rates. Payment of licence duty in respect of motor cycles and private cars may be effected quarterly or yearly at the owners' option.

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Visitors' licences, at the following rates, are payable in respect of privately owned motor cars and motor cycles belonging to persons on temporary visits to the Colony not exceeding three months.

Private cars	...	...	Rs 10 per month irrespective of H.P
Motor cycles	...	...	Rs 2 per month irrespective of H.P

No licence fee is charged on a private car or motor cycle for a short stay in the Colony not exceeding one week.

Posts and Telegraphs

The Posts and Telegraphs Department is responsible for the postal and telegraph services of the Colony and operates the Post Office Savings Bank. It also acts as an agent for a number of Government departments in so far as the collection of certain revenue and the making of certain payments are concerned. The Money Order Service is available for nearly all parts of the world, and the British Postal Order Service for most Commonwealth countries.

The main Post Office is in Port Louis. There are besides 32 post offices and 43 postal agencies spread throughout the Island and all classes of postal and telegraph business are transacted. Postal facilities are also available in Rodrigues.

Air mail connection with all parts of the world is maintained by means of the services operated by *Air France, Qantas Empire Airways* and *South African Airways*.

Air mail postage rates are charged on weight units of 5 grammes. The air mail postage rate to Europe and to India and Pakistan, the principal destinations of the Colony's outward correspondence, is 60 cents for 5 grammes. The Aerogramme or Air Letter Service operates to all destinations at the uniform rate of 35 cents.

The number of postal items handled during 1959 was approximately as follows:

Air mail	...	...	3,655,020
Overseas surface mail			906,480
Inland mail	...	...	5,333,580

Mauritius is linked to the rest of the world by cables and by radio installations which are operated and maintained by Cable and Wireless Limited. The Company has an office, a cable station and a radio station in Port Louis, and a cable station and a radio installation in Rodrigues. The major part of the foreign telegraph traffic concerns Port Louis and outward and inward telegrams from or for the Capital are accepted, for transmission or delivery, direct by Cable and Wireless Limited. Elsewhere foreign telegrams are received at post offices and transmitted over land lines operated by the Posts and Telegraphs Department to the General Post Office in

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Port Louis, for outward transmission by Cable and Wireless: inward telegrams received by Cable and Wireless Limited are similarly transmitted by the General Post Office over the land lines to post offices for delivery.

There are 210 miles of inland telegraph lines and the number of inland telegrams handled during 1959 was 13,518 as compared with 12,841 during 1958.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The functions of the Telecommunications Department may be briefly summarised as follows:

(a) operation of the public telephone system;

(b) maintenance of the public telegraph service on behalf of the Posts and Telegraphs Department;

(c) enforcement of the provisions of the Radio-Communications Ordinance (Cap. 96);

(d) control of radio licences and collection of licence fees;

(e) operation of the ship-to-shore W/T service and the reception and transmission of meteorological traffic on behalf of the Observatory;

(f) installation and maintenance of radio equipment in Government buildings;

(g) installation and maintenance of electric lighting and power services in Government buildings, including hospitals and the Government Railways;

(h) installation and maintenance of telephones and telegraphs on behalf of the Railway Department.

There are 15 telephone exchanges in the Island:

Manual : Port Louis, Curepipe, Rose Hill and Vacoas.

Automatic: Rose Belle, Souillac, Mahébourg, Rivière des Anguilles, Flacq, Pamplemousses, Moka, Quartier Militaire, Pailles, Montagne Longue and Nouvelle France.

The rural automatic exchanges for Chemin Grenier, Rivière Dragon, L'Escalier and Plaine Magnien have been received during the year, and erection of buildings to house these is awaited. These have been held up by site and land acquisition difficulties. L'Escalier building, however, is well under way.

Of the large automatic exchanges much of the equipment for Rose Hill is to hand, and the building is under way. The site for Port Louis automatic exchange building is settled but structural difficulties have held up building erection.

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At the close of the year there were 6,118 exchange lines, 11,140 miles of telephone wire and 8,673 telephone stations in service. The number of effective telephone calls handled during 1959 amounted to 7,220,391 as compared with 7,042,960 during 1958.

The laying of the cable from Plaine Magnien to L'Escalier has been completed.

The ship-to-shore radio station at Vacoas keeps a 24 hour watch on the maritime distress frequency and also provides communcation with ships up to at least 1,200 miles from Mauritius. The station handled 9,156 radiotelegrams during 1959 as compared with 9,572 during 1958.

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Chapter 12: Central Information Office, Information and Press

The Press

The history of the press in Mauritius has been traced back as far as 1773. *Le Cernéen*, one of the existing daily newspapers has had an uninterrupted existence of more than 125 years and *Le Mauricien*, another daily, has been published regularly for 50 years. The languages in which the newspapers are published are French, English, Hindi, Urdu, Tamil and Chinese.

The following is a list of newspapers published in Mauritius:—

Daily	Weekly
Le Cernéen	*La Vie Catholique*
Le Mauricien	*Aryoday*
Advance	*J.O. et Tribune Ouvrière*
Action	*L'Epée*
China Times	*Mauritius Times*
Chinese Daily News	*Le Flambeau*
New Chinese Commercial Paper	*New Observer*
Twice Weekly	**Fortnightly**
Janata	*Zamana*
	Le Progrès Islamique
	La Voix de L'Islam
	Mazdur
Monthly	
Union	
Trait d'Union	

Information Services

The Central Information Office was set up in implementation of the proposal in the Government statement entitled " The Luce Report: A time for Decision " (Sessional Paper No. 8 of 1958) to create a Government Information Department capable of reaching every member of the population. Provision for the establishment of the new Department was made in the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment No. 25) Order.

Functions

The functions of the Department are:—

(a) to establish and maintain relations of confidence and mutual understanding with all sections of the press;

(b) to ensure a flow of accurate information from the Government to the public;

(c) to impress upon the public the following aims:—

(i) the facts of the situation in which Mauritius finds itself (as summarised in the Government Statement mentioned above and the consequences which will flow if it is not remedied;

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(ii) the strategy and plans of the Government in dealing with the situation;
(iii) the need to abolish economic waste;
(iv) the need for increased food production;
(v) the need for family limitation.

Some 558 notices, many of which were translated by the office, were published free of charge in the press as against 720 official paid communiqués. The total of 1,278 communiqués thus released showed an increase of 116 on the figure for the previous year.

The general public, especially in the rural regions, were reached by the medium of the broadcasting services through the weekly serial programmes known as *The Monday Night Topic,* prepared by the office in both its French and Hindi versions, and by the introduction, in the latter part of the year, of a daily news bulletin on ministerial activities and Government policy for the benefit of those who do not normally go to the press for their sources of information.

On the other hand, the wider sections of the community were ringed by a network of rural publicity stretching from the week-day activities of the Mobile Cinema Units to seasonal or occasional publicity by specialised field teams. As a result of a complete overhaul in the methods of approach of the Mobile Units, the work of Government and current bills passed by the Legislature were projected, dressed up by specially selected and processed film shows.

In September, *Maurice Magazine,* a monthly illustrated broadsheet in French and Hindi, with an overall circulation of 4,000 copies, was started for the benefit of those members of the public who do not normally read the newspapers.

In order to drive home to the public the need to combat economic waste, the office undertook, during the year under review, a campaign against waste of water and electricity. Two posters were prepared and put up throughout the Island, slogans appeared daily in the papers, as well as occasional articles, for three weeks running and, during the specific anti-waste of water week, daily comments on the theme were broadcast every day.

Two Open Days organised by the Department of Agriculture during the year gave the office the opportunity to meet part of the demands of the commitment regarding the necessity for increased food production by publicizing the activities of the department, besides being responsible for the actual coverage, by press and radio, of the Agricultural shows themselves. Articles were prepared for the newspapers, two special issues of *Maurice Magazine* were devoted to improve soil production and livestock developments and

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a booklet entitled " The Soil is our Wealth " and destined more especially for the ordinary reader or the amateur-gardener was produced in French to round off the various activities of the office in the agricultural field.

The office was tasked with two major assignments during the year: coverage of *(a)* the General Elections held for the first time on the basis of universal adult suffrage, and *(b)* the mass vaccination campaign just before and during the actual outbreak of poliomyelitis.

For the General Election, press articles giving basic information regarding the registration of electors were published. Posters, leaflets and handouts were published in English, French and Hindi and distributed to the public. These and other media of publicity, including a 16 mm. film made by a local company and the film slides were brought to bear on the campaign so as to ensure its success.

It is interesting to note that 208,684 electors were registered out of an estimated roll of 250,000 to 275,000 having the right to vote and that 191,666 went to the poll on election day. Likewise, all the resources of publicity available at the office were tapped for the Salk Vaccination Campaign before the outbreak of poliomyelitis and for the Sabin Vaccination for children in the age group of six months to ten years during the actual course of the epidemic. Communiqués, daily slogans in the press, a widely-circulated colour poster, film slides, franking of letters, were among the many devices used to bring the stark menace home to parents. It is gratifying to note that 195,000 children out of an estimated grand total of 200,000 in the specific age groups were vaccinated.

The public address equipment and the projectors of the mobile cinema units were considerably used during these major campaigns but they were also brought into harness for lesser ones like the Road Safety Campaign and the Campaign against wastage of water and electricity. Besides they were busy, on all week days, maintaining their routine activities amid an ever-increasing demand for their services in the rural and more remote parts of the country it is their purpose to serve. They gave in all 386 film shows to an audience of about 350,000 people, made up sometimes of single gatherings, 2,000 strong.

Arrangements were made for journalists to be present at Plaisance airport on the 10th July, for the departure of His Excellency the Governor, Sir Robert Scott, K.C.M.G. and for the arrival of the new Governor, His Excellency Sir Colville Montgomery Deverell, K.C.M.G., C.V.O., O.B.E. and Lady Deverell.

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The Central Information Office was also responsible for making arrangements for press conferences held by ministers, heads of department and distinguished visitors from overseas. Sixteen such meetings were convened, ranging from full dress press conferences given by ministers returning from their mission tours abroad to informal ones like the two which were held on board visiting warships.

As part of its routine work, the office also continued to prepare, during the year, the daily press report which is circulated to the ministries and the departments, as well as a weekly summary of leading articles and other important items of news for the Secretary of State for the Colonies. It continued also to be the responsibility of the office to prepare for the benefit of Mauritian students in the U.K., a monthly news bulletin, 90 copies of which are sent to the Mauritius Students Unit in London, which undertakes their distribution. The ministries made ever increasing use of the translation facilities available at the office. Books, pamphlets, periodicals, photographs and publicity material were distributed to public libraries, schools, village councils, social welfare centres, baitkas and other allied institutions. Students and members of the pubiic at large also availed themselves of the use of the library's reference books which were freely consulted on the spot.

An average of 160 sets of photographs were made by the office part-time photographer during the year and were made available to the local and overseas press. Besides the blocks made from news photographs, the local press was also provided with 232 ebenoids and stereos received from the Central Office of Information.

The office helped also with the shooting of two films, one for the B.B.C.T.V. ' To-night ' programme made by a team headed by Mr. Allan Whicker of the B.B.C. and the other produced by Miss F. Cockburn of the Films Division of the Central Office of Information, London, for the Independent Television and for distribution to U.K. schools.

The film library of the office consisted of 227 films, of which 15 were new additions. Furthermore, 35 films were loaned to this Department on request by the Central Office of Information and the United States Information Services in Nairobi. 16 mm. films were received on loan from one of the leading oil companies and another from a local firm. Films were lent by the Central Office of Information free of charge: of these eight were ordered for the Education Department, seven for the Telecommunications Department and two for the Medical and Health Department.

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Eight documentary films and ten news series on the main events concerning the African Continent were shown by the Mobile Cinema Units and lent to the Education Department and other organisations.

Forty-nine 16 mm. copies of British News were received for use by this office and forty-nine 35 mm. copies were sold to the cinema companies at a nominal fee.

Eight 35 mm. documentary films were also received from the Central Office of Information and circulated free to cinema companies. Twenty 16 mm. documentary films and ten 16 mm. films of the British News series were sent on loan to Rodrigues.

The number of volumes in the library increased from 700 to 1,000 copies of which 15 were received free of charge from the Central Office of Information and two from the Commissioner for India. The London Press Service (' *Colco* ' edition) increased its supply from four to fifteen copies for every factsheet.

As in preceding years, the office collected the material for the revision of the section devoted to Mauritius in the following reference books: " Advertising and Press Annual of Africa ", " British Commonwealth ", " Knaurs Lexicon Encyclopaedia ".

Mauritius was very much in the news during the year. Articles and notes on the Island appeared in some forty-seven foreign papers, including " The Times ", " The Spectator ", " The Economist ", " New Commonwealth ", " The Daily Telegraph ", " The Scotsman ", " The Guardian ". In the majority of cases, this publicity arose as a consequence of direct action taken by this department.

Broadcasting

Before the Second World War broadcasting in Mauritius was run by a private commercial concern. During the war there were three stations in the Island, all partially or wholly controlled by the Government. In 1944 the Government decided to assume sole responsibility for broadcasting in the Colony and set up its own organisation, " The Mauritius Broadcasting Service ", which broadcasts material of a non-commercial nature.

Since 1944 the number of radio licences has increased from 2,746 to 34,506 of which 5,345 were in respect of new radio sets licensed in 1959.

In 1958–59 the recurrent expenditure of the Mauritius Broadcasting Service amounted to Rs 477,628 as compared with a total revenue of Rs 347,344 derived from wireless licences.

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The implementation of a scheme for the technical improvement of the Mauritius Broadcasting Service is being financed partly from local funds and partly from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds. By the end of the financial year Rs 463,552 had been spent in connection with this development scheme.

The Mauritius Broadcasting Service owns a 10Kw short wave transmitter which was put into operation in the course of the year and broadcasts on 49 and 90 metres. It also owns a 5Kw medium wave transmitter which is at present being overhauled and is replaced by a relief 250W transmitter broadcasting on 220 metres. These transmitters are all located in the outskirts of Curepipe in the district of Plaines Wilhems in a new building which is being enlarged to house other transmitters. These will be operated and maintained by the Mauritius Broadcasting Service, in accordance with a new scheme for the co-ordination of the transmitting facilities belonging to the Telecommunications, Meteorological and Harbour Departments.

The studios and the administration and news sections are still housed in an old building in Forest Side, but plans are well advanced for the erection of a new Broadcasting House.

The Mauritius Broadcasting Service goes on the air for an average of 57½ hours a week in four daily transmissions in the course of which English, French, Hindustani and two Chinese dialects are spoken. It also broadcasts token programmes in Tamil, Hindi, Urdu, Telegu, Gujrati, Marathi and Swahili.

Owing to lack of local professional artists, the programmes are mainly made up of recorded music and of transcription recordings from the British Broadcasting Corporation and the "*Radiodiffusion et Television Française.*" The output of live programmes has greatly increased in quality and quantity in the course of the year. Six news bulletins—one in English, four in French and one in Hindustani—covering a total of one hour are broadcast daily.

The Education Department broadcasts weekly during term-time five programmes of 15 minutes duration each.

The Globe Reuter News Service is monitored by the Mauritius Broadcasting Service which distributes daily more than 150 duplicated copies of world news o the local press, Government Departments, the Garrison and the Admiralty.

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Chapter 13: Local Forces

The Mauritius Garrison

During the year the decision was announced that owing to the world wide change in military strategy the Military Garrison would close down in 1960 and would be replaced by the Mauritius Special (Mobile) Force.

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary when making this announcement in the Legislative Assembly said:

> " For close on 150 years the Armed Forces of the Crown have been stationed in Mauritius, its existence being based partly on the requirements of the basic stragetic pattern prevailing throughout this period and partly on the needs of Mauritius. A series of distinguished and historic units of this British Army has served in this Island. Their traditions have been passed on to and worthily maintained by the officers and men of the King's African Rifles who have formed the Garrison of Mauritius in recent years. I cannot allow this opportunity to pass without making a warm tribute to the officers and men of the King's African Rifles whom we have had the pleasure of having here as the Garrison of Mauritius. They have maintained, most worthily, a historic tradition. We respect them as a regiment that has proved itself in war. We have all been impressed by their smartness and bearing on parades and ceremonial occasions. I am sure that the House will join with me in this tribute and wish them well ".

Consequent upon this announcement it was decided to replace the two companies of 2/6 KAR, who were due to return to Tanganyika, with only one company until the final close down.

This changeover was effected by air between the 21st and the 29th September under the name of " Operation Halfback ". Charter planes of East African Airways carried out a daily shuttle service between Dar-es-Salam and Mauritius. This was the first occasion that a move of this type had been carried out with African troops and was completed most successfully.

The Garrison took a part in the departure of Sir Robert Scott, K.C.M.G., Kt., by the provision of a Guard of Honour and Saluting Troop at Plaisance. A similar parade was held on the arrival of H.E. The Governor, Sir Colville Montgomery Deverell, K.C.M.G., C.V.O., O.B.E., to the Island and at the Installation Ceremony at Port Louis.

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Apart from the normal annual parades, a guard of honour was also mounted on the occasion of the visit to Mauritius of The Commander-in-Chief South Atlantic and South American on board H.M.S. *Lynx*.

Salutes were fired for the French Aircraft Carrier *Arromanches* and the U.S. *Jonas Ingram*.

Visitors during the year included the General Officer Commanding East Africa who carried out the Annual Inspection and also the Assistant Director of Medical Services, the Deputy Assistant Chaplain General and the Senior Officer R.E.M.E.

Mauritius Naval Volunteer Force

The Mauritius Naval Volunteer Force completed its tenth year of service on the 30th September, 1959.

The Commanding Officer, Commander C. R. E. de Jersey, O.B.E., Royal Navy (Retd.), completed his tour of service during the year and was succeeded in command by Commander D. W. Graham, O.B.E., Royal Navy (Retd.), on 7th September.

On the 31st December, 1959, the Force consisted of the Commanding Officer and two Chief Petty Officer Instructors as Permanent Staff, two R.N. Reserve Officers, eleven non-continuous service ratings, and sixty-eight volunteer ratings.

Selection Boards for entry into Force were held at three monthly intervals and out of 83 applicants interviewed 42 were accepted for the new entry course, while 16 new entries were finally enrolled for three years' service. Eight ratings were discharged from the Force on completion of their period of enrolment and for other reasons.

Voluntary drills were held each Monday and Friday evening at Mauritius Naval Volunteer Force Headquarters, and were well attended.

Sea training in M.F.V. 189 was carried out during drill periods on Mondays. All day sea training was carried out twice weekly when possible, but was limited by lack of availability of Volunteers during working hours. Annual Training took place at Cannoniers Point from the 17th to the 30th October and was attended by 65 ratings.

The Annual Inspection of the Force and M.N.V.F. Headquarters was carried out by the Commander-in-Chief, South Atlantic and South America on 29th May. The Officer Administering the Government inspected the Force on the 29th October.

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The Force provided a ceremonial platoon of one officer and 50 ratings for the Queen's Birthday Parade at Line Barracks, Port Louis, on the 13th June, and a further ceremonial platoon for the Remembrance Day Parade at the War Memorial, Curepipe, on the 8th November. A detachment of the Force also lined up on both sides of the enrance to Government House, Port Louis, on the 3rd November for the installation of His Excellency the Governor, Sir Colville Montgomery Deverell, K.C.M.G., C.V.O., O.B.E.

Between the 30th November and the 2nd December, H.M.S. *Leopard* took His Excellency the Governor to Rodrigues on an official visit, and during this short trip 11 non-continuous service ratings of the Force were embarked for training and derived much benefit from their experience.

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Chapter 14: General

The Mauritius Institute

The Mauritius Institute traces its origin back to the year 1880 when an Ordinance was passed " to establish and incorporate a Public Institute, to be called the Mauritius Institute, a Public Museum and a Public Library, for the purposes of promoting the general study and cultivation of the various branches and departments of Arts, Science, Literature and Philosophy, and for the instruction and recreation of the people ".

The foundation stone of the present building was laid on the 23rd November, 1880, by Sir George Bowen, then Governor. The building was completed in 1884 and in the course of the following year the Natural History Museum, known as the " Desjardins Museum ", until then housed in a wing of the Royal College in Port Louis, was transferred to the new building. The public library was opened in 1903, following the munificent bequest of the Sir Virgile Naz Library which forms the nucleus of the present collection. The Institute has expanded its activities over the years and to-day it comprises a Public Library, a Natural History Museum, an Historical Museum, and a small Art Gallery.

The Institute is managed by a Board of Directors consisting of ten members apppointed annually by the Governor and of such persons as may be recommended by any literary or scientific society associated with the Institute. The staff consists of a Director, a Librarian, a Curator, and eight other officers.

The Public Library

No charge is made for reading at the Mauritius Institute Public Library but a deposit of Rs 10 is required from borrowers. The stock of about 50,000 volumes comprises an almost equal number of French and English fiction and non-fiction books and a small percentage of Oriental books. A large variety of periodicals are also received at regular intervals and placed at the disposal of readers.

The library has a valuable collection of Mauritiana and a reference section on the natural history of the Mascarene islands and the neighbouring regions. The library of the Royal Society of Arts and Sciences of Mauritius forms part of this section.

Several changes and improvements have been made in the library generally. The number of registered borrowers has increased from about 200 in 1945 to 1,743 in 1959, while the number of visits of readers who made use of the library during the year was 52,597.

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MAURITIUS INSTITUTE AND PUBLIC MUSEUM

The photo shows one of the new rooms installed in the Public Museum.

Various sharks hang from the ceiling on the right; normal and abnormal fishes are displayed in the vertical showcases whilst the tablecases contain shells and an enlarged model of a dissected snail.

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The Natural History Museum

The Natural History Museum is mainly regional in character and contains representative collections of the fauna, flora and geology of Mauritius and of the neighbouring islands. The Museum was visited by 77,369 persons during the year 1959.

The bird section contains specimens of most of the one hundred species of the birds of Mauritius. They have been grouped as shore birds, marsh birds, sea birds, game birds and land birds. The endemic species of which nine are still found out of a total of twenty-four, are displayed separately. The extinct species are shown by means of feathered restorations and paintings, and in some cases by actual skeletons. The Dodo is exhibited together with its relatives which inhabited the neighbouring islands of Reunion and Rodrigues. The species which was found in Reunion was known as the " White Dodo "; it is known only from historical evidence and by a 17th century painting, a reproduction of which is exhibited in the Museum. The Rodrigues *Solitaire* is exemplified by a genuine skeleton and by a water-colour reproduction of the feathered bird. The Museum also possesses the only known skeleton of the Mauritius flightless Red Hen *(Aphanapteryx bonasia)* and one of the three stuffed examples of the Mauritius Dutch Pigeon *(Alectroenas nitidissima)*, a species which became extinct about one hundred years ago.

In the mammal section are found examples of the very few species occurring in the Island which, with the exception of bats, have all been introduced by man at various times. These include the Javanese Deer imported by the Dutch, a Borneo Macaque released in the Island by the Portuguese, the Wild Pig and the Indian Hare.

In the reptile section are exhibited examples of the giant species of tortoises, extinct or still living, peculiar to the Indian Ocean islands, and of various kinds of turtles found in the region. The geckos, lizards and snakes of the Island are exhibited, including the very curious Round Island snakes, two species of which are found and are considered to be " living fossils."

The fish section displays examples of the numerous species found in the territorial waters of the Island, all of them stuffed and painted in their natural colours. Fresh-water fishes, comprising about twenty-five species, some indigenous, others introduced, are also exhibited.

A large number of Echinoderms (sea-stars and urchins) live in the region and examples of nearly all the species, including a few almost unique ones, are represented in the Museum.

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The Mollusca section has a rich collection and the Island is reputed for its extremely large variety of sea-shells, though most of these occur as well in all the Indo-Pacific region. The land shell fauna, comprising about two hundred species, is less spectacular but is scientifically more important, as many groups are peculiar to the Island. The fresh-water mollusca are insignificant, except from a medical point of view, one species being known to transmit a serious disease.

The Museum also possesses local collections of crustaceans, insects, corals and plants.

Biological Research

The very interesting remnants of the indigenous land fauna and flora, together with the rich marine life of the surrounding seas present excellent opportunities for biological research. Scientific collections of all groups are made and these are studied overseas and locally by experts, the results being published in the Mauritius Institute Bulletin and in specialized publications abroad.

Art Gallery

A small art gallery is attached to the Port Louis Museum, consisting mainly of a collection of paintings presented to the Institute in 1921 by the late Mr. Edgar de Rochecouste. This collection includes a certain number of paintings of artists such as Ziem, Le Sidaner, Harpignies, and Jacques-Emile Blanche. A small section is devoted to the works of local artists.

The Historical Museum

A subsidiary museum devoted to local history has been opened in an old French house at Mahébourg recently acquired by Government. It was in this house that Monsieur de Robillard, the French Commandant of Grand Port, received the two wounded commanders of the English and French squadrons, Admirals Willoughby and Duperré, during the well-known naval battle of August, 1810. Several objects connected with this episode and recovered one hundred and twenty-four years later from the wreck of the *Magicienne,* one of the English frigates sunk in Grand Port bay during the engagement, are exhibited. These objects include a portion of the ship's hulk, several heavy guns and carronades, cannon balls, grape-shot, copper coins, pieces of sailor's uniform and various other relics.

The capture of the Island by the British at the beginning of December, 1810, is illustrated by a series of coloured prints drawn on the spot by Temple.

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A section of the museum is devoted to the display of a valuable collection of maps, charts, engravings and watercolours (many in original) which serve to introduce the visitor to the various periods of the history of Mauritius from its discovery to the present time. Worthy of special mention in this section are a portulan map published at Amsterdam in 1595 (probably the most accurate map of the region available at the time of the first Dutch visit to Mauritius in 1590), an English map of Mauritius by Mount and Page published in 1745 and derived from a Dutch source, Abbé de la Caille's map (1753) which is the first accurate map of the Island, Bellin's map of 1763, and two maps by Lislet Geoffroy, published by the British Admiralty in 1813 and 1814. Modern maps are also shown, including the fine one-inch map by Descubes (1880) which is of great practical interest as it indicates the site of over a thousand concessions.

Among the series of lithographs and water-colours recording the life, scenery and customs of different periods may be noted six water-colours by Kelsey (early 1840's), coloured prints by Thuillier, coloured lithographs by Bradshaw and Rider (1831–32), water-colours by Leroy (1860's), and a water-colour panoramic view of Mauritius, sketched from Port Louis harbour by Augustus Earle who was on board the *Beagle* when Charles Darwin visited Mauritius in 1836.

A few pieces of local furniture belonging to the French Governor Mahé de Labourdonnais (1699–1753) and exhibits from the East Indiaman *Kent* which was captured by Robert Surcouf, *Roi des Corsaires,* in the Bay of Bengal in October, 1800, are on view.

Relics connected with the activities of the French privateers in the Indian Ocean at the beginning of the 19th century are also displayed.

Part of a room of the Museum is devoted to the history of transport in Mauritius exemplified by two *palanquins* and a *chaise à porteurs* which were in use before the era of roads and wheeled traffic.

A small exhibit is devoted to the history of the famous " Post Office " stamp of Mauritius (1847) and is illustrated by reprints of the stamp.

Among miscellaneous items of interest may be cited: objects rescued from some memorable shipwrecks in the region, the portraits

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or busts of certain French and British Governors (Mahé de Labourdonnais, Charles Decaen, Robert Farquhar, Lowry Cole, John Pope Hennessy), and the Roll of Honour of the Mauritian soldiers who lost their lives in the Second World War.

During the year the Historical Museum was visited by 13,184 persons, including 3,872 schoolchildren.

Learned Societies

The following scientific and literary societies are associated with the Mauritius Institute:—

(1) *The Royal Society of Arts and Sciences of Mauritius* was founded in 1829 under the name of *Société d'Histoire Naturelle* and was honoured in 1847 by the permission of Queen Victoria to add the word " Royal " to its name. Its activities extend to most branches of natural history. Lectures on science and art are delivered by its members from time to time and also by visiting professors, artists and scientists. Proceedings of the Society, containing papers read before the Society, are published annually. The Society owns a library which contains many rare and valuable books and periodicals on natural history.

(2) *The Société de Technologie Agricole et Sucrière de Maurice* is a technical body founded in 1910 and devoted to the study of questions relating to agriculture and to sugar technology. The papers and proceedings of the Society are published in the bi-monthly *Revue Agricole*.

(3) *The Société des Ecrivains Mauriciens* was founded in 1938 with the object of encouraging the publication of literary works, and of establishing contacts with literary institutions overseas.

(4) *The Indian Cultural Association* was founded in 1936 with the object of promoting Indian culture in Mauritius and of fostering spiritual ties with India. It publishes a quarterly journal called " The Indian Cultural Review ".

(5) *The Société de l'Histoire de l'Ile Maurice* was founded in 1938 to foster and encourage the study of the Colony's history by the collection of documents on local history, publication of historical works, and the organisation of historical exhibitions and lectures.

One of the principal activities of the Society has been the production of the Dictionary of Mauritian Biography, twenty-five parts of which have already appeared. These contain about one thousand biographies of persons connected with Mauritius by birth or residence.

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The Society awards prizes to schoolchildren to encourage the study of Mauritian history. It keeps in touch and exchanges publications with overseas institutions of like interests.

The Mauritius Archives

The Mauritius Archives Office is not only one of the oldest departments of the Colony, dating from the early years of the French settlement, but it is also one of the oldest archive centres of the Southern Hemisphere, ranking only after the Cape and Réunion repositories.

Under French rule the Office was a branch of the *Conseil Supérieur* and received special attention from the authorities. An early instance of the interest of the French Government in colonial archives is provided by the edict of 1770, which set up a central *Dépôt des Chartes des Colonies* at Versailles and enacted regulation for their better preservation. Another important measure was the establishment in Mauritius in 1808 of a *Dépôt des Cartes de la Marine* which for a long time supplied sailors and travellers in the South Indian Ocean with valuable information.

At the time of the land fighting which led to the surrender of the Island by the French, the local archives were removed from Port Louis to a safer place of custody in Plaines Wilhems and thus escaped damage. In 1815, after the final cession of Mauritius to Great Britain, they were handed over to the British authorities in an almost complete state, as comparatively few of the records were retained by the French Government.

Until 1949 the Archives were attached to the Registrar General's Department, and from January, 1950, to the Central Administration. By the Archives Ordinance (No. 71 of 1952) they were transferred to an Archives Department which is the central repository of all public archives.

The Archives Office is now divided into the following sections:

(i) the Repository, which comprises *inter alia* the records of the old French Administration (1721–1810), records of the British Administration (from 1810), notarial records, and private records;

(ii) the Library, which, besides being the official registry of all publications issued in Mauritius, contains Mauritiana printed abroad, reference books on general history, colonial history and archivology with a section devoted to collections of stamps, seals, currency notes and other materials;

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(iii) the Land Registry, which comprises the records of the former Land Court, memoranda of survey deposited by sworn land surveyors, with a section containing maps, charts and plans.

The Department is also equipped with a photostat and a duostat for the photocopying of records and the supply of copies to Government departments and to the public.

The control and disposal of records is supervised by the Public Archives Records Destruction Committee. The Chief Archivist also inspects regularly archives lying in repositories other than the Archives Department.

Publications include the annual report, the quarterly *memoranda* of books and periodicals issued in Mauritius and registered in the Archives, and the publications issued by the Archives Publication Fund Committee (established in 1951).

The bibliographical survey of Mauritiana started in 1951 was completed in February, 1955. The book, including about 1,000 pages and comprising altogether 8,865 entries, was published in 1956 under the title of Bibliography of Mauritius, 1502–1954. It was compiled with particular attention to historical development and with the main object of meeting the needs of those interested in history. To keep it up to date a bibliographical supplement including additional material recorded during each successive year from 1955 onwards, is issued as an appendix to the annual report of the Archives Department. Three supplements have appeared.

Former publications of the Mauritius Archives Publication Fund comprise an Atlas-Souvenir to commemorate the work of Abbé de la Caille in Mauritius, a selection of documents on early American trade with Mauritius and the *Répertoire des Archives de l'Ile de France pendant la régie de la Compagnie des Indes (1715–1768)*.

In 1958 the Committee issued its fourth publication entitled: *Mauritius and the spice trade: the odyssey of Pierre Poivre,* edited by Miss Madeleine Ly-Tio-Fane.

The British Council

In February, 1958, the British Council occupied new premises in Rose Hill which had been specially designed to meet the requirements of Council activities. The membership of the Centre has steadily increased and in December, 1959, 1,647 adult members

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and 2,674 student members were using the Library regularly. The work of explaining and interpreting the British way of life was carried on throughout the Island and special emphasis was placed on those British institutions which are now being adapted for use in Mauritius. Prominence was also given to Britain's solution in the past of some of the urgent problems which face Mauritius today. This programme was carried out by means of lectures, film shows, study groups and vacation courses and covered a very wide range of subjects, including the technique of English teaching, The Public Service, Local Government, Vocational Guidance as well as English Literature and the Arts. The welfare of students leaving Mauritius for higher studies in the United Kingdom has long been a Council responsibility and this year as before the Introduction Course was provided for 71 students before their departure from Mauritius.

Other Professional and Cultural Associations

British Medical Association, Mauritius Branch

A branch of the British Medical Association was founded in 1939. Membership is granted to all medical practioners who have qualified for registration in Mauritius, including those holding French qualifications. The Branch represents the majority of the doctors in the Island and close collaboration is maintained between Government and the profession. The Branch is frequently consulted by the Government.

Le Cercle Littéraire de Port Louis

The principal object of this Society is to seek to bring together all those interested in French culture and ideas. Its aims are to encourage, by means of annual competitions and public lectures, the study of the French language and literature. A review, *L'Essor*, is published by this Society.

Alliance Française

The Mauritius Branch of the Alliance Française was founded in 1884 with the object of encouraging the study of the French language by means of French courses in schools and annual examinations as well as meetings and conferences on French literature and art. Two prizes are awarded annually to the best candidates in French of the Royal College and the Queen Elizabeth College. The Labourdonnais College was opened in 1953 by the Alliance Française. In October, 1959, the Mauritius Branch of the Alliance Française celebrated the 75th anniversary of its foundation.

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Mauritius Dramatic Club

The first record of an organised amateur theatrical production in Mauritius goes back as far as the 25th April, 1848, when officers of the 5th Battalion, the Northumberland Fusiliers, staged three one-act plays at the Port Louis Theatre.

A Mauritius Amateur Dramatic Club was formed in 1898 and stage productions and play readings were regularly featured until the 1914–1918 War.

The present Mauritius Dramatic Club owes its origin to a revival in theatrical activity which began in early 1920 and which ultimately led to the formation of the Club in 1932. Since then stage plays, play readings and broadcasts have been frequently presented.

The Vacoas House of Debaters

This association, founded in 1936, takes a special interest in general educational and cultural development.

Fortnightly meetings are held for debates and plays, and occasional radio programmes are presented on the Mauritius Broadcasting Service. Lectures by eminent outside personalities are delivered from time to time.

A Scholarship Fund, authorized by Government, provides for the educational needs of pupil-members taking a secondary course of studies. A girls' section was started in January, 1952, for the benefit of girls of 12 and upwards.

Tennis, volley ball, table-tennis, outings, open air camping are some of the recreational activities.

The Mental and Physical Culture Association

The principal aims of this Association are to encourage the study of the English language and literature and to assist its members to obtain facilities for enjoying sports such as tennis and football.

The Hindi Pracharini Sabha

This society was established in 1935 with headquarters at Montagne Longue. Its main object is to promote and encourage the study of Hindi in Mauritius. Seventy-six Hindi Schools are at present affiliated to it. Efforts are being made to produce a uniform curriculum in all Hindi schools, to improve the standard of teaching, and to foster the study of Hindi language and literature. Two annual examinations in Higher Hindi are conducted with the collaboration of the Hindi Sahirya Sammelan, Allahabad, India.

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The Young Men's Christian Association

The Mauritius Y.M.C.A. was founded in collaboration with the London Central Y.M.C.A. and inaugurated in August, 1952. It is also a member of the World Council of Y.M.C.A.

The P.E.N. Club de l'Océan Indien

The Mauritius section of the " Federation Internationale des P.E.N. Clubs " was founded in Mauritius in 1951. It seeks to promote a spirit of understanding and friendship among the writers of all sections of the community and also among those of the neighbouring islands.

The English Association

Founded in 1946, the English Association is the outcome of a movement started by a group of English and Mauritian ladies and gentlemen with the primary object of helping Mauritian secondary school-children who were learning English to a better knowledge of the tongue and to a fuller acquaintance with English literature and culture. These school-children, usually weak in spoken English through lack of practice, were above all to be given opportunities of speaking English and of hearing it spoken by English people.

The Association, which has a membership of about 60 and works in close co-operation with the British Council, tries to achieve its aims by engaging in as many activities as possible likely to be of assistance to students of English language and literature. Film shows, dramatic performances, and broadcasts in English are arranged for school children and essay-writing competitions are held. Above all, annual competitions in elocution, acting and choral singing are held and the prize-winners take part in a public recital. The number of schools taking part in these competitions is steadily increasing.

The Association has since its foundation been honoured with the patronage of the Governors of the Colony, its first Patron having been Sir Donald Mackenzie-Kennedy.

Centre Culturel Français

The *Centre Culturel Français* which was inaugurated in May, 1959, had, by the end of the year, enrolled some 700 members drawn up from all sections of the community.

The *Centre Culturel Français* is provided with a film unit, a goodsized library, an auditorium where records may be played at will. The Centre, situated at Curepipe, is open to the public. It is administered by three Honorary Chairmen (one of whom is the Consul for France), one President, three Vice-Presidents assisted by a Working Committee of 26 members.

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The activities of the *Centre Culturel Français are* many and varied. Documentary films are shown twice weekly to the public while a cine-club operates for member only once weekly. Talks are given regularly on many subjects, literary as well as scientific, by visiting lecturers or by members of the Centre. Socials, seminars, debates, literary matinees are also held at the Centre.

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PART III

Chapter 1: Geography and Climate

POSITION

Few people living outside the Indian Ocean area would, without research, be able to place Mauritius accurately, unless perhaps they were stamp-collectors. On the map of the Indian Ocean the Island is shown by a dot somewhere near the centre. Yet it has laid claim with some degree of historical justification to the title of " The Star and Key of the Indian Ocean ". It is situated about 500 miles off the centre of the east coast of Madagascar, and is practically on the Tropic of Capricorn. By sea, it is 1,552 miles distant from Durban, 2,094 from Colombo and 3,182 from Perth. The voyage to the United Kingdom *via* the Suez Canal entails a journey of 6,942 miles, but if the alternate route *via* the Cape of Good Hope is taken the distance is 8,393 miles. Nowadays, most people travel to and from the Island by air, to Europe, India or South Africa, and journeys which used to involve weeks or months have shrunk to a matter of hours.

Physical Features

Geologically, the Indian Ocean consists of two great basins separated by a central submarine ridge running southwards from India. Mauritius is one of the few points on this ridge which appear above the surface. It is of purely volcanic origin and the Island we know today is probably only the worn down summit of an immense shield volcano which built itself up from the ocean bed in *Cretaceo-Tertiary* times. There were two distinct phases of volcanic activity, separated by a very long period of erosion. The older volcanic series began by the opening of a fissure in the earth's crust beneath the floor of the Indian Ocean. Eruptions slowly built up a submarine ridge of considerable height and extent. The base of the future island of Mauritius was one of the domes of this ridge. The island that appeared was perhaps, at one time, as high as the present-day Himalayas; then before the first cycle of volcanic activity ceased, a series of explosions partially destroyed what had been built up. During the very long period of quiescence which followed, the agents of erosion—wind and water, heat and cold—reduced the volcanic pile to a mere remnant. The olivine basalt blocks of the older volcanic series are hard, compact and black in colour.

Towards the close of the *Tertiary* period, the second great phase of volcanic activity occurred. It was divided into two periods of eruptions, separated by a short period of erosion. The first out-

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burst appears to have been confined to the south-west of Mauritius; the last one consisted of a succession of thin lava flows from 2″ to 20″ in thickness. These cover about 70 per cent of the present surface of the Island. Lava tunnels dating from this period are common, some of them carrying underground streams. There are also low hummocks *(tumuli)* of up to 15 feet in height, and a few depressions (e.g. at *Ile d'Ambre* and the *Puits des Hollandais)*. The rocks of the younger volcanic series are medium grey doleritic basalts.

Volcanic activity must have ceased in Mauritius more than 100,000 years ago, although the neighbouring French Island of Réunion still has an active volcano. In Mauritius a complicated series of geological submergences and emergences followed the cessation of volcanic activity. The present is a period of slow submergence. Raised reefs and beaches are found at many localities along the coast, some as much as 60 feet above sea level. The Island rests on a submarine shelf varying from ½ to 2½ miles in width, except towards the North where it covers an area of 15 by 13 miles. Outside this shelf the submarine ridge slopes rapidly down to the mean Indian Ocean depth of 2,000 fathoms.

Mauritius, which is roughly pear-shaped, is 38 miles long by 29 miles broad. From the North an extensive undulating plain rises gently towards the central plateau, where it reaches a height of about 2,200′ before dropping sharply to the southern and western coasts. There are three main groups of mountains—the Port Louis group running in a east-north-easterly direction, the Black River—Savanne group massed in a north to south direction, and the Bambous group with a east-west trend. The mountains are a striking feature of the Mauritian landscape, rising abruptly from the surrounding plain, with their lower slopes covered with dense vegetation—now being replaced by sugar cane or tea—and their upper slopes ending in precipitous rocky peaks with most distinctive outlines. They appear to be much higher than they actually are, and are particularly impressive in the early morning or towards sunset. Few visitors fail to notice the contrast between these stark, upthrusting masses, and the flat, fertile cultivated plains from which they rise.

The main watershed of the Island runs northwards across the central plateau for a distance of about 20 miles. From this ridge the ground slopes towards the coast, except where interrupted by the mountain ranges or by isolated peaks. The rivers consequently tend to run westward or eastward. Most of them are short and fast

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flowing, generally at the bottom of deep ravines and interrupted by waterfalls. Some of the larger have been harnessed for hydro-electric purposes. True crater lakes are found at Bassin Blanc and Grand Bassin, but in general water conservation is achieved by man-made reservoirs, of which there are now six.

The Island is almost completely encircled by coral fringing reefs, within which are peaceful lagoons and a succession of lovely beaches of white, coral sand. Together with the mountains, the seashore is the glory of Mauritius and much of the social life of the Island is based upon it. Those who can afford the cost, have sea-side residences which they occupy during the winter months and at weekends for most of the other months. Public beaches give an outlet to the less favoured part of the population. As may be expected, swimming, sailing and fishing are popular pastimes in which all sections of the population indulge, no part of the Island being more than 17 miles from the coast.

Mauritius has a number of island dependencies in the Indian Ocean. These are Rodrigues (350 miles to the east), Chagos Archipelago (1,180 miles north-east in the direction of Ceylon), Agalega and Cargados Carajos (580 miles and 250 miles respectively north of Mauritius).

Rodrigues*, the principal dependency, is a mountainous island of volcanic formation encircled by a coral reef and has a total area of about 40 square miles. It measures 9½ miles in length by 4½ miles in width and its population consists mostly of fishermen and small cultivators.

Chagos* consists of five groups of coral islands, the biggest of which is Diégo Garcia. The horseshoe-shaped ribbon of land lying just above sea level surrounds a lagoon thirteen miles long and between four and five miles wide.

Agalega* consists of two small islands, separated by a narrow strip of sandbank. This dependency is the main source of copra for the edible oil industry of Mauritius.

The archipelago of Cargados Carajos*, usually referred to by the name of the principal islet, St Brandon, is a fishing station leased to a Mauritian company.

Climate and Vegetation

Mauritius enjoys a sub-tropical maritime climate, with sufficient difference between summer and winter to avoid monotony, and further variation is introduced by the wide range of rainfall and temperature resulting from the mountainous nature of the island. Humidity is rather high throughout the year and rainfall

*See Maps at end of Report.

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The problem is further complicated by the heterogeneous nature of the population, drawn from European, African and Asian sources over the last three centuries. The largest ethnic group is the Indo-Mauritian, representing two-thirds of the total population, and subdivided into Hindus and Muslims. The second largest group, about one-quarter of the population, comprises people of French, English and mixed descent, is Christian and mainly Roman Catholic. The last distinct group is the Sino-Mauritian, half Christian, half Buddhist. The employment pattern has tended to follow the racial, although it is being increasingly obscured by the need to find work wherever it offers. Generally speaking, however, the Hindus are agricultural, the Muslims are traders and industrial workers, the Chinese are shop-keepers, and the General Population clerical, commercial and professional urban dwellers. Population density throughout the Island exceeds 860 per square mile, but this figure does not reveal the true position which is that the population is concentrated in a number of towns and villages. The population density of the capital, Port Louis, is in excess of 40,000 per square mile, and the Plaines Wilhems townships have a density ranging from 10,000—16,000. More than half the total population is below 20 years of age—a situation of real gravity in a territory with no natural outlet for its surplus population.

Economic Conditions

To-day, sugar means more to Mauritius than wool did to England in the days of the Merchant Guilds. The sugar cane covers 90 per cent of the total area under cultivation, and the yield represents 96 per cent of all arable production. Nearly 45 per cent of the total area of the Island is cultivated, an intensity of cultivation with few parallels in the tropics. Of this area, what is not under sugar is producing tea (mainly in the up-lands), tobacco, some maize, vegetables and in the drier coastal areas, aloe fibre for the making of sacks.

Before man exploited and ruined them, the aboriginal forests of Mauritius covered the greater part of the Island. From the surviving remnants it is possible to distinguish two types—the rich, evergreen forests of the uplands where the rainfall is in excess of 75" per annum, and the dry forests in areas of lower rainfall. In all, they amount to only a few thousand acres of the 90,000 acres at present forested, the majority with exotic conifers and eucalyptus. Crown forests, mainly in the uplands, cover 67,000 acres. Around the coast there are 3,500 acres of Crown Land leased for tree cultivation. River and mountain reserves in private hands slightly

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exceed 15,000 acres. The forests have a dual function, as a protective cover on unproductive ground forming the catchment area of a number of rivers, and for producing most of the timber needed by the Island for construction or for use as fuel.

With such a high proportion of land under arable crops and forest cover there is little room for livestock production. Cattle number only about 40,000. Pig-keeping is limited; sheep do not do well; goats are kept mainly by the Indian population; poultry-keeping both on an industrial basis and as a background occupation is growing in popularity. But the Island as a whole has placed its reliance on the skill of the sugar industry to continue to provide it with the means of purchasing from abroad its food and clothing, manufactured goods, machinery, fertilizers and building material—in fact, practically all it needs to live. In the last five years, domestic exports from Mauritius have varied between 248 and 323 million rupees, and sugar accounted for about 97 per cent of this total. Tea is the only other export from the Colony which exceeds an annual value of over one million rupees. Over the same period, there has also been a favourable balance of trade, averaging thirty-six million rupees a year. Almost all the sugar crop goes to the United Kingdom and Commonwealth territories, only about 5 per cent going to General Tariff countries. Similarly about three-quarters of the imports come from within the Commonwealth. Port Louis, the capital and the only port equipped to handle ocean-going vessels, handles the sugar exports by means of lighters carrying the bagged sugar to ships moored in the stream. Inward freight is mainly discharged into lighters also, but plans are in hand to improve the docking facilities.

Mauritius is completely lacking in mineral resources, has no *entrepot* trade and, apart from sugar and its by-products, has virtually no manufacturing enterprises. It is a text-book example of a one-crop economy.

Communications

This small island of 720 square miles has an excellent system of road communications, exceeding 700 miles in all, of which more than half are tarred. Road traffic is extremely dense. The railway service, now reduced by closures of uneconomic lines to a total of 80 miles, is a Government enterprise and handles only goods traffic. There is only one airport in Mauritius, situated at Plaisance, in the south-east of the Island about three miles from the coast, and managed by the Civil Aviation Department of the Mauritius Government. No aircraft is based on Mauritius and no internal

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services exist. Regular external air services are operated (twice weekly) by AIR FRANCE *via* Nairobi, Madagascar and Réunion and (in alternate weeks) between Australia and South Africa *via* Cocos Islands and Mauritius by QANTAS EMPIRE AIRWAYS and SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS.

Communication with the dependencies is ensured by a passenger-steamship service, with sailings of six to eight times a year to Rodrigues. The minor dependencies are linked, somewhat irregularly, by ships belonging to the commercial companies to which the islands are leased for the production of copra or the exploitation of the off-shore fishing.

There is an efficient public telephone and telegraph system throughout the Island, which is also linked with the rest of the world by Cable and Wireless Ltd., now operating radio-telephone links with many countries as well as its long-established cable service.

Finally, reference should be made to the Government operated Mauritius Broadcasting Service, which provides medium wave transmissions for local listeners and a short-wave service for listeners overseas.

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Chapter 2: History

The Island was probably visited both by Arab sailors and by Malays duing the Middle Ages, and on maps of about 1500 it is shown with an Arabic name. During the early sixteenth century Portuguese sailors visited it several times, and the first European to discover Mauritius is believed to have been Domingos Fernandez. The Island appears on many sixteenth century maps with the Portuguese name of *Cerné* or *Cirné*.

Dutch sailors first visited the Island in 1598 and renamed it Mauritius, after their ruler Prince Maurice of Nassau; later they made frequent calls on their trading expeditions to the East Indies. First-hand accounts exist of these visits, and of visits by English, French and Danish ships, which called at Mauritius for water, food and cargoes of ebony. An English trading company planned to occupy the Island but was forestalled in 1638 by a Dutch company, whose settlement lasted (with a gap from 1658 to 1664) until 1710. It was from Mauritius in 1642 that Tasman set out on his most important voyage of Australasian discovery.

The Dutch settlers never numbered much over three hundred (including children and slaves) and the most useful element was a group of twenty or thirty farmers, rearing cattle, hunting, fishing and growing food crops as well as some tobacco. But the settlement never developed enough to produce dividends and the Dutch company finally abandoned it in 1710. The most noteworthy results of this Dutch occupation were the exploitation of the Islands's great ebony forests and the extinction of the Dodo, a bird peculiar to Mauritius, often mentioned by early seventeenth-century travellers. The Dutch are also to be remembered for the introduction of sugarcane, cotton, domestic animals and deer. Before the Dutch occupation the Island was uninhabited. The slaves introduced into Mauritius by the Dutch were brought from Madagascar.

The French in 1715 claimed the Island and called it *Ile de France,* but do not seem to have settled any of their surplus Bourbon colonists there until 1722. In the intervals, European pirates from Madagascar and ships of the British Navy, searching for the pirates, were almost the only visitors.

From 1722 till about 1767 Mauritius was governed by the French East India Company. From 1767 to 1810 it was in charge of officials appointed by the French Government, apart from a brief period of independence under the Colonial Assembly during the

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French Revolution. In 1735 the population had grown to almost one thousand, including two hundred Europeans, and from the time of the governorship of Mahé de Labourdonnais onwards increased rapidly, reaching nearly twenty thousand in 1767 (fifteen thousand of them slaves). Labourdonnais did more than any other Governor to change what was a petty outpost into a strong, prosperous and well populated colony. Much of the land was divided into concessions of approximately a quarter-mile by a mile, and most of these were farmed. Coffee, manioc, maize, vegetables, fruit, indigo, cloves and sugar were among the crops grown. There was some rearing of poultry, goats and cattle.

Towards the end of the Company's rule Port Louis, the capital, was a lair of speculators and adventurers desirous of returning to Europe as soon as they had made their fortunes. During the wars of the eighteenth century (Austrian Succession War, Seven Years War, and War of American Independence), the Island became a naval depot, supplying French fleets fighting the British in the Indian Ocean, and was the pivot of French schemes to drive the British out of their Indian trading settlements. It was also a port of call for several expeditions, notably that of Bougainville, and was described by many French travellers, of whom the best known is Bernardin de Saint Pierre, author of *Paul et Virginie*.

From 1767, under royal government, the population continued to increase, reaching thirty thousand in 1777, forty thousand in 1787, and nearly sixty thousand in 1797, including fifty thousand slaves from Madagascar and Africa. During the French Revolution the inhabitants of Mauritius set up a government virtually independent of France, because the property owners were resolved to defend their interests against the *Jacobins* and *sans culottes* and to resist the attempt made by the French revolutionary government to release the slaves. The Colonial Assembly organised successful and damaging raids on English commerce whenever England and France were at war. The raids continued while Decaen, one of Napoleon's generals, was Governor until in 1810 a strong British expedition, long planned and more than once postponed, was sent to capture the Island. A preliminary attack was foiled at Grand Port in August, 1810, but the main attack, launched in December of the same year with larger forces, was successful. Bourbon and Rodrigues were also occupied by the British in 1810, but by the Treaty of Paris in 1814 Bourbon was given back to France. Mauritius and its dependencies, including Rodrigues and the Seychelles, were then ceded definitely to Great Britain.

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Many English officials were brought in, together with a large garrison of several regiments. By 1870 the garrison had been gradually reduced to half a battalion, which was still further reduced after 1914. Few English merchants and private persons have settled in Mauritius, whose European population has remained mainly French in language and sentiment although loyal to the British Crown. After 1825 the Island flourished, especially by the export of sugar to England, the crop increasing from 14,000 tons to 34,000 tons in the decade 1823–33. During these early years the English Government's policy of suppression of the slave trade and the consequent plans to free the slaves were opposed until a sum of two million pounds sterling had been paid to the slave owners as compensation for the loss of their slaves. To replace the freed slaves labourers were brought from India to work in the fields. The population, which in 1833 had reached a hundred thousand (three-quarters of them slaves), had by 1861 risen to three hundred thousand, nearly two hundred thousand of them being immigrants from India, most of whom remained to settle in Mauritius.

With the aid of immigrant labour, imported fertilizers, improved methods of agriculture and richer cane varieties, the sugar crop rose to 70,000 tons in 1853, 150,000 tons by 1900, and in 1959 reached the record figure of 579,841* tons. In the interest of the sugar industry, forests were cut down, labourers brought in, reservoir and irrigation schemes carried out, new government departments set up and technicians trained. As Joseph Conrad wrote: "First rate sugarcane is grown there. All the population lives for it and by it. Sugar is their daily bread."

Other industries were sporadically encouraged and usually neglected. After the slaves had been freed, much less food was grown locally and more was imported, especially rice from India. This became the staple food of the population and remained so, except in the 1939–45 war when rice supplies from Burma and India were cut off and imported flour and local crops had to be used as substitutes. When boom prices were being paid for sugar after the 1914–18 war, various minor industries including tea, brick and tile manufacture, tobacco, aloe fibre bags and a government dairy were developed.

One side of Mauritian history is concerned with cyclones, epidemics and crop pests, which from time to time have upset the economy of the island. In the eighteen-fifties there were epidemics of cholera and in the eighteen-sixties five years of epidemic malaria which caused in 1867 the death of 20,000 people in Port Louis alone

*Provisional.

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and the mass migration of thousands of persons, including almost all the well-to-do, from Port Louis and the coastal districts to the higher, healthier parts of Plaines Wilhems. Curepipe, a scattered village in 1865, was by 1895 large enough to have a town board, nominated annually by the Governor, and by 1959 was a town of 27,900 people. The district of Plaines Wilhems, which in 1851 had 14,000 inhabitants, grew to 75,000 in 1921 and 187,234 in 1959. The cyclone of 1892, in which 1,200 persons were killed; the epidemic of sura in 1902, which killed off all the draught oxen and caused sugar estates hurriedly to import light railways; bubonic plague in 1899; the *Phytalus Smithi* beetle, which in 1911 was found to be attacking the sugarcane; the 1919 epidemic of influenza; the spread of malaria during the nineteen-thirties into the hills and higher districts; and, finally, three cyclones and a serious outbreak of poliomyelitis in 1945, are some of the greater misfortunes woven into the pattern of the Island's history.

When sugar prices were high and the Island was prosperous, living conditions were improved in various ways. The sanitation of Port Louis was improved in the eighteen-nineties after long discussion. Sir Ronald Ross's visit in 1908 led to useful anti-malarial work during the next twenty years. Reservoirs at Mare-aux-Vacoas (1893–95),La Ferme (1918), La Nicolière (1924) and Piton du Milieu (1956) brought irrigation and domestic water in private houses and to sugar estates in several districts. Child welfare and similar activities developed in the war years. After expert inquiries in 1921 the water supply of Port Louis was greatly improved and the port itself was modernised. Under the stimulus of the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts more money was spent on education after the War. Before 1937 government revenue had come mainly from taxes on goods entering or leaving the Island as well as on various local products. A graduated poll tax on incomes was introduced and within ten years had almost doubled government revenue. The poll tax was replaced by an income tax as from the 1st July, 1951. The revenue from this source rose from Rs 17,322,000 in the financial year 1950–51 to Rs 47,334,938 in the financial year 1958–59.

At times when sugar prices were low or climatic difficulties discouraging, the Island had to raise loans or obtain grants from London. This happened in 1892, in 1908 when a Royal Commission of Inquiry under Sir Frank Swettenham was sent out from England, in 1930 when government expenditure on public works and on salaries was cut, and in 1945 as the consequence of the disastrous cyclones of that year.

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The main political events of the period 1850–1900 were the establishment of the Municipality of Port Louis in 1850, the Royal Commission of Enquiry on Indian Immigration in 1872, and the creation in 1886 of a Council of Government including elected members.

The early years of the present century were a period of slow recovery after the epidemics, cyclones and other calamities. The years that immediately followed the 1914–18 war were years of unprecedented prosperity, owing to a boom in sugar prices, but this prosperity did not last long. During the second World War, Mauritius assumed considerable strategic importance through the closing of the Suez Canal and the threat to India by the Japanese after their conquest of most of the European settlements in the Far East. The population at large played a valuable part in the organisation of local, military, and passive defence and a large number of the Colony's youth volunteered to serve overseas.

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Chapter 3: Administration

Central Government

The Government of Mauritius is vested in a Governor with an Executive Council and a Legislative Council.

A Council of Government was first established in 1825. It consisted of the Governor and four officials. In the following year the Constitution was amended and a Council which included unofficial members was introduced. This Constitution provided for a Council of Government composed of certain officers of the Crown and an equal number of other persons, to be taken from the chief landowners and principal merchants of the Colony; seven officials and seven non-officials were accordingly appointed.

The Constitution was again amended in October, 1885. The Council of Government under the revised Constitution was composed of the Governor, eight *ex officio* members, nine members nominated by the Governor, and ten elected members; of the latter, two represented the town of Port Louis, the capital of the Island, and the remaining eight represented the rural districts. At least one-third of the nominated members were to be persons not holding any public office.

The Constitution was further amended in July, 1933, by fixing at two-thirds the proportion of the nominated members of the Council who were to be non-officials and, although no provision to that effect was made in the Letters Patent, the nominated non-official members were allowed a free vote on all occasions. The constitution of the Executive Council, which had hitherto been composed of the Governor and four *ex officio* members, was amended at the same time, and the practice of appointing non-official members to the Council, which had prevailed before the Royal Commission of 1909 reported, was revived.

The normal life of a Council is five years, but the last one to sit under the 1933 Constitution lasted from 1936 to 1948. This long extension was due first of all to the war and subsequently to the delay in arriving at a final decision on the new and more liberal Constitution. The protracted labours of the Consultative Committee on the revision of the constitution had ended in a virtual stalemate. In 1947 the then Governor, Sir Donald Mackenzie-Kennedy, broke this stalemate by submitting to the Secretary of State revised proposals based on his belief that the bulk of the population was not ready for fully democratic institutions. To guard against possible abuse certain safeguards were suggested, but within these limitations

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the widest possible measure of enfranchisement, on the basis of a "simple literacy" requirement, was recommended by the Governor, whose recommendations were accepted and embodied in the Letters Patent, Royal Instructions and Order in Council dated the 9th December, 1947. A general election was held in August, 1948, and the new Council met on the first day of September.

Constituencies were regrouped under the Order in Council of December, 1947. Plaines Wilhems and Black River were joined together to form one constituency returning six members. The constituencies of Pamplemousses/Rivière du Rempart, Moka/Flacq and Grand Port/Savanne each returned three members, and the constituency of Port Louis had four members.

Under the 1933 Constitution the number of registered electors was never greater than 12,000 (the figure of December, 1947, was 11,799). The number of registered electors under the 1947 Constitution was six times greater—71,723 having qualified to vote in the 1948 general election — and by the end of 1957 had risen to 91,010.

In 1958, by virtue of the Mauritius (Electoral Provisions) Order in Council, 1958, the 40 constituencies recommended in the report of the Mauritius Electoral Boundary Commission were demarcated and proclaimed, the registration of electors for the Legislative Council was undertaken for the first time on the basis of universal adult suffrage and the number of registered electors rose to 208,684.

On the 31st December, 1958, the Second Legislative Council was dissolved and the Mauritius (Constitution) Order in Council, 1958, was brought into operation with the exception of Part II thereof, relating to the Executive Council. The way was thus clear for a general election for the Legislative Council on the basis provided in the constitutional Order in Council to take place early in 1959.

The Legislative Council was composed in 1959 of the Speaker, three *ex officio*, 40 elected and 12 nominated non-official members. The Governor formerly presided but since January, 1957, the Council has had a Speaker appointed by the Governor, in accordance with the Mauritius (Legislative Council) (Amendment) Order in Council, 1956, and the Mauritius (Constitution) Orders in Council, 1958 and 1959. A Deputy Speaker is elected by the Council from amongst those members who are not Ministers.

In debates in the Legislative Council members may speak either in English or in French.

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The Executive Council consists of three officials (the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General and the Financial Secretary), and nine members appointed by the Governor from amongst elected or nominated members of the Legislative Council in accordance with section 7 of the Mauritius (Constitution) Order in Council, 1958. The *ex officio* and appointed members are styled Ministers. Each Minister is responsible for the administration of specified departments or subjects and is bound by the rules of collective responsibility. Besides the official members, nine Ministers hold portfolios as Ministerial Secretary to the Treasury, Minister of Health and Reform Institutions, Minister of Labour and Social Security, Minister of Education and Cultural Affairs, Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Minister of Local Government and Co-operative Development, Minister of Housing, Lands and Town and Country Planning, Minister of Industry, Commerce and External Communications, and Minister of Works and Internal Communications. The Executive Council, which was formerly a purely advisory body, now has full executive responsibility and is the principal instrument of policy. The Governor is obliged to consult with Executive Council in the fomulation of policy and in the exercise of all powers conferred upon him by the Mauritius Letters Patent, other than those which he is empowered to exercise in his discretion, and to act in accordance with the advice of the Executive Council.

The names of members of the Executive and Legislative Councils are given in Appendices II and III to this Report.

The head of the Civil Service is the Colonial Secretary. He is the Governor's principal official adviser on administrative and political matters, and is responsible for the co-ordination of all Government activities. The Financial Secretary continues to be the principal adviser on financial and economic policy acting in concert with the Ministerial Secretary to the Treasury, who is also responsible for specific aspects of financial administration.

The Public Service Commission Ordinance was passed in 1953 (No. 23 of that year) providing for the constitution of a Publice Service Commission with a membership of not more than four members including the Chairman. The Ordinance was brought into force with effect from the 11th March, 1955, by Proclamation. Subsequently the Ordinance was amended by the Public Service (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 23 of 1959) increasing the number of members to five. By virtue of section 52 of the Mauritius (Constitution) Order in Council, 1958, as amended by section 2 of the Mauritius (Constitution) (Amendment) Order in Council, 1959,

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the Commission is part of the constitution of Mauritius. The Commission's function is to advise the Governor on appointments, promotions, disciplinary action and other matters which are referred to it in accordance with the provisions of the Ordinance. During 1959 the Commission considered 2,122 applications in connexion with first appointments to 451 posts, as well as the claims of 579 candidates for promotion: this involved a total of 802 interviews. The Commission also advised on 23 disciplinary cases and considered 58 matters concerning the grant of study leave or scholarships.

A Police Service Commission consisting of a Chairman and four other members was appointed in accordance with section 3 of the Mauritius (Constitution) (Amendment) Order in Council, 1959. The function of the Commission is to advise the Governor on any question relating to the appointment, promotion, dismissal or disciplinary control of members of the police force and on any matters affecting the police force which may be referred to it.

The Commission was appointed with effect from the 28th July, the Chairman of the Public Service Commission serving as Chairman. The first task of the Commission was to advise in connexion with recruitment to the Special (Mobile) Force.

Local Government

Urban

The Municipality of Port Louis was first established in 1850. The membership of the Municipal Council, which is wholly elected, was increased from 12 to 16 by the Municipality (Amendment) Ordinance, 1950 (No. 35 of that year). The Mayor and Deputy Mayor are elected by the Council for appointment by the Governor.

In Plaines Wilhems the Town Councils (Constitution) Ordinance (No. 38 of 1950) provided for Town Councils to replace the former Boards of Commissioners for Curepipe, Beau Bassin/Rose Hill, and Quatre Bornes. The majority of the members are elected but each Council has a proportion of members nominated by the Governor: Curepipe and Beau Bassin/Rose Hill each have nine elected and four nominated members, while Quatre Bornes has seven elected and three nominated members.

The franchise was until recently based on residence plus a simple literacy test, occupation of business premises in the electoral area, or the payment of rates or taxes. During the year, however, the decision was taken to hold the Municipal and Town Council

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elections on the basis of universal adult suffrage and certain taxpayers qualifications. In consequence the Municipality (Transitional Provisions) Ordinance and the Town Councils (Transitional Provisions) Ordinance (Nos. 2 and 3 of 1959) were passed postponing the elections, which were due to be held in December, 1959, to 1960. The Town Councils (Constitution) (Amendment) Ordinance and Municipality (Amendment) Ordinance (Nos. 15 and 16 of 1959) were subsequently passed making new provisions for the constitution of the Town Councils, the qualification and disqualification of electors and other matters. In view of the growing importance of the Town Councils and the rise in their population the number of elected members for each of the three Town Councils was increased by three.

The number of registered electors for the Municipal and Town Councils at the end of 1959 was as follows:—

Council	*Registered electors*
Port Louis	... 17,851
Curepipe	... 4,724
Beau Bassin/Rose Hill	... 5,326
Quatre Bornes ...	... 4,682

By virtue of the Local Government Elections Ordinance (No. 1 of 1956) responsibility for the registration of electors and for the conduct of elections in the electoral areas of the Municipality and the three Town Councils was placed on an Electoral Commisioner appointed by the Governor. In 1956 electors were registered and the general elections for the Municipal and Town Councils were conducted in accordance with the provisions of that Ordinance for the first time. This Ordinance, however, has been repealed by the Representation of the People Ordinance (No. 14 of 1958) which provides for the registration of electors and the conduct of elections for both the Legislative Council and he Municipal and Town Councils. Responsibility for the registration of electors and the conduct of elections continues to be vested in an Electoral Commissioner and future Municipal and Town Council elections will be held in accordance with the provisions of the new Ordinance.

Rural

A fresh start in rural local government was made in October, 1946, when a Civil Commissioner was appointed to take charge of the southern districts of Grand Port and Savanne. In May, 1947, a second Civil Commissioner was appointed for the northern districts of Pamplemousses and Rivière du Rempart, and a third Civil Commissioner for the districts of Moka and Flacq, assumed duty

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towards the end of 1948. In October, 1952, Black River was added to the districts for which the Civil Commissioner (South) was responsible. In September, 1955, a fourth Civil Commissioner was appointed to take charge of Black River District, the extra-urban areas of Plaines Wilhems and the southern extra-urban areas of Port Louis. The northern extra-urban areas of Port Louis are within the province of the Civil Commissioner (North). The Civil Commissioner is the principal administrative and executive officer of Government in his district and he is responsible for coordinating the whole machinery of Government. The Civil Commissioner is also responsible for the development of local government in his district and for ensuring the welfare of its inhabitants by all means at his disposal.

Village councils were first constituted in 1947. A few councils developed very rapidly indeed and were given government contracts for such services as scavenging and the upkeep of cemeteries. With funds provided by the Central Government, councils undertook road repairs, the construction of bridges, markets, public latrines and primary school buildings, improvements to water supplies, the creation of a day nursery and even a housing experiment. Not all village councils have reached the same standard.

New impetus was given to rural local government by the Village Councils and District Councils Ordinances which came into force in 1952. Regular elections and powers to raise taxes, own property and make bye-laws greatly enhanced the status of the village councils. The district council, which advises the Civil Commissioner on matters of policy, allocates funds to village councils and generally correlates their work, is able to raise certain taxes not applicable to any one village. At the end of 1952 district councils were set up in each of the three Civil Commissioners' districts following elections held under the Ordinance. In Plaines Wilhems/Black River District a district council was constituted for the first time after the village council elections held in 1958.

At the end of 1959 there were 29 village councils in the South, 30 in Moka/Flacq, 30 in the North and 19 in Plaines Wilhems/Black River.

Village councils consist of eight members elected on a liberal franchise and four members nominated by the Governor. District councils consist of the Civil Commissioner and thirteen other members. These members are: an elected member of the Legislative Council appointed by the Governor; a sugar estate manager

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appointed by the Governor from among those in the district; a president of a co-operative society elected by the presidents of co-operative societies in the district; representatives of the Medical, Education, and Public Works and Surveys Departments appointed by the Governor on the recommendation of the head of department; and seven chairmen of village councils elected by the chairmen of village councils in the district. The chairman of the district council is elected by the members from amongst their number and has so far been the Civil Commissioner. The Local Government Officer is the secretary and treasurer of the district council.

Sessional Paper No. 2 of 1956 on the development of rural local government in Mauritius was accepted by the Legislative Council in 1956 as providing a sound basis for such development. The Paper reviewed the present position in regard to rural local government by village and district councils and suggested the general lines on which the responsibilities and exercise of active citizenship in the rural areas could best be developed. The proposals made in this Paper were that *(a)* district and village councils should cease to be primarily agencies for the distribution of funds derived from the Central Government and should raise their own funds, *(b)* district and village councils should have appropriate trained staff, *(c)* by 1960 the direct participation of Civil Commissioners in the work of district councils, as members of those councils, should cease, and *(d)* representatives of Government departments should similarly cease to be members of district councils by nomination. The detailed implementation of these proposals is still under consideration.

Local government forms part of the portfolio of the Minister of Local Government and Co-operative Development.

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Chapter 4: Weights and Measures

The metric system is in general use in the Colony. Certain French measures are still used in connection with measurements of land, the more common being:

1 French foot	=	1·06 English feet
1 Arpent	=	40,000 French square feet or 1·04 acres
1 Toise	=	6 French feet or 2 yards 4 inches

The following measures of capacity are also in use:

1 Bouteille	=	800 c.c. (liquid)
1 Chopine	=	half-bouteille
1 Corde	=	80 French cubic feet or 96·82 English cubic feet (used only to measure firewood).

A measure of length commonly used in the field is the *Gaulette* which is equivalent to 10 French feet. The term *livre* is used currently to mean half a kilogram.

The Weights and Measures Control Section of the Police Force is responsible for examining and stamping weights, scales, weighing machines, measures of length and measures of capacity. This section also deals with all inaccurate weights and measures seized by the uniformed Police and issues the necessary certificates for production in Court. The control of weighbridges on sugar estates is the responsibility of the Central Board constituted under the Sale of Canes (Control) Ordinance.

The amount of duty collected on weights and measures in 1959 was Rs 10,003 as compared with Rs 11,609 in 1958.

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Chapter 5: Reading List

A list of publications of general interest relating to Mauritius is given in Appendix IV.

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APPENDIX I

Capital Expenditure Programme 1957—1962

Allocations made in Sessional Paper No. 3 of 1959 and Actual Expenditure in 1958-59

Central and District Administrations

Allocation	*Total 1957-62*	*Actual Expenditure 1958-59*
	Rs	Rs
Central Administration	1,660,000	409,057
District Administration	268,800	130,138
Police	5,199,000	533,852
Fire Services	870,000	109,049
Broadcasting	1,249,000	96,739
Government Buildings	2,000,000	11,700
Training Scheme	875,000	—
Lesser Dependencies	1,000,000	—
Printing	230,000	6,497
TOTAL	13,351,800	1,297,032

Treasury, Customs and Excise, Miscellaneous Loans and Subventions

Treasury	150,000	37,926
Customs and Excise	150,000	—
Miscellaneous Loans and Subventions	5,750,000	105,000
TOTAL	6,050,000	142,926

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Agriculture	19,818,200	4,549,216
Forests	817,000	183,716
Fisheries	715,000	26,309
TOTAL	21,350,200	4,759,241

Education and Cultural Affairs

Education	23,781,300	3,544,272
Mauritius Institute...	90,000	1,295
TOTAL	23,871,300	3,545,567

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APPENDIX I—*continued*

Allocation	*Total 1957–62*	*Actual Expenditure 1958–59*
	Rs	Rs
HEALTH AND REFORM INSTITUTIONS		
Medical and Health	11,529,000	904,646
Prisons	626,000	85,114
Social Welfare	173,000	3,410
TOTAL	12,328,000	993,170
LABOUR AND SOCIAL SECURITY		
Public Assistance	415,000	40,000
WORKS AND INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS		
Water Supplies	7,462,000	2,818,224
Irrigation	5,400,000	1,173,900
Sewerage	25,490,000	373,283
Miscellaneous Works	4,001,900	644,970
Roads	24,611,000	3,132,415
Posts and Telegraphs	325,195	22,400
Traffic Licensing Authority	630,000	94,042
TOTAL	67,920,095	8,259,234
INDUSTRY, COMMERCE AND EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS		
Secondary Industries	3,600,000	25,517
Electricity	32,000,000	5,956,192
Harbour and Quays	10,793,500	165,139
Telecommunications	9,235,000	514,735
Meteorology	482,000	40,336
Civil Aviation	3,332,100	547,744
TOTAL	59,442,600	7,249,663
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT		
Local Government...	8,000,000	1,150,000
Co-operation	450,000	70,250
TOTAL	8,450,000	1,220,250
HOUSING, LANDS AND TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING		
Surveys	500,000	—
Town and Country Planning	75,000	—
Housing	10,000,000	1,100,000
TOTAL	10,575,000	1,100,000
GRAND TOTAL	223,753,995	28,607,083

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APPENDIX II

(Part III—Chapter 3: Administration)

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IN 1959

President

His Excellency SIR ROBERT SCOTT, K.C.M.G., until 9th July.

ROBERT NEWTON, ESQ., C.M.G., from 10th July until 2nd November.

His Excellency SIR COLVILLE MONTGOMERY DEVERELL, K.C.M.G., C.V.O., O.B.E., from 3rd November.

Ex Officio Members

The Colonial Secretary

ROBERT NEWTON, ESQ., C.M.G., until 9th July and from 3rd November.

F. L. SIMPSON, ESQ., (Acting) from 10th July until 2nd November.

The Attorney General

R. NEERUNJUN, ESQ., O.B.E., Q.C., until 25th October.

M. RIVALLAND, ESQ., M.B.E., (Acting) from 26th October.

The Financial Secretary

W. G. WILSON, ESQ., from 2nd March.

D. A. KAIN, ESQ., O.B.E., (Acting) until 1st March.

Selected for appointment by the Governor
(in office until 6th March)

Dr. the Honourable C. E. MILLIEN, Minister of Labour.

The Honourable A. M. OSMAN, O.B.E., Minister of Agriculture and Lands.

Dr. the Honourable S. RAMGOOLAM, Ministerial Secretary to the Treasury.

The Honourable A. G. SAUZIER, Minister of Communications.

Appointed by the Governor
(in office until 6th March)

Dr. the Honourable L. A. CÉLESTIN, M.C., Minister without Portfolio.

The Honourable J. G. FORGET, Minister of Health and Social Services.

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APPENDIX II—*continued*

The Honourable P. G. R. RAULT, Minister of Works and Tourism.

The Honourable V. RINGADOO, Minister without Portfolio.

The Honourable H. R. VAGHJEE, Minister of Education and Institutions.

Appointed by the Governor
(in office from 6th April)

The Honourable A. BEEJADHUR, Minister of Education and Cultural Affairs.

The Honourable S. BOOLELL, Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The Honourable J. G. FORGET, Minister of Health and Reform Institutions.

The Honourable F. LAVENTURE, Minister of Local Government and Co-operative Development.

The Honourable A. R. MOHAMED, Minister of Housing, Lands and Town and Country Planning.

The Honourable A. L. NAIRAC, C.B.E., Q.C., Minister of Industry, Commerce and External Communications.

Dr. the Honourable S. RAMGOOLAM, Ministerial Secretary to the Treasury.

The Honourable V. RINGADOO, Minister of Labour and Social Security.

The Honourable H. E. WALTER, Minister of Works and Internal Communications.

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APPENDIX III

(Part III—Chapter 3: Administration)

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN 1959

Speaker

SIR ROBERT STANLEY, K.B.E., C.M.G.

Deputy Speaker

The Honourable P. G. R. RAULT, Nominated Member

Ex Officio Members

The Colonial Secretary

ROBERT NEWTON, ESQ., C.M.G., until 28th September

F. L. SIMPSON, ESQ., (Acting) from 29th September to 2nd November

The Attorney General

R. NEERUNJUN, ESQ., O.B.E., Q.C., until 26th October

M. RIVALLAND, ESQ., M.B.E., from 27th October

The Financial Secretary

W. G. WILSON, ESQ.

Elected Members

The Honourable R. BALGOBIN, Member for Grand River South East

The Honourable D. BASANT RAI, Member for Vieux Grand Port

The Honourable A. BEEJADHUR, Member for Rivière du Rempart

Dr. the Honourable R. BHAGEERUTTY, Member for La Caverne

The Honourable S. BISSOONDOYAL, Member for Rose Belle

The Honourable S. BOOLELL, Member for Montagne Blanche

The Honourable J. E. CHANGKYE, Member for Port Louis South

The Honourable P. DABEE, Member for Savanne

The Honourable A. DAHAL, Member for Rivière des Anguilles*

The Honourable J. S. E. DAVID, Member for Midlands

The Honourable J. R. DELAÎTRE, Member for Quatre Bornes

Dr. the Honourable W. R. DUPRÉ, Member for Port Louis West

The Honourable M. FOOGOOA, Member for Montagne Longue

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The Honourable J. G. FORGET, Member for Belle Rose

The Honourable G. GANGARAM, Member for Black River

The Honourable V. GOVINDEN, M.B.E., Member for Souillac

The Honourable S. INDUR, Member for Stanley

The Honourable A. H. G. M. ISSAC, Member for Port Louis Central

The Honourable K. JAGATSINGH, Member for Petite Rivière

The Honourable R. JAYPAL, Member for Grand' Baie

The Honourable R. JOMADAR, Member for Flacq

The Honourable J. M. J. L. M. J. KŒNIG, Member for Beau Bassin

The Honourable G. KOORARAM, Member for Floréal

The Honourable L. O. LACAZE, Member for Port Louis North

The Honourable A. R. MOHAMED, Member for Port Louis East

The Honourable A. MOIGNAC, Member for Grand River North West

The Honourable D. NAPAL, Member for Pamplemousses

The Honourable A. H. M. OSMAN, Member for Phœnix

Dr. the Honourable S. RAMGOOLAM, Member for Triolet

The Honourable S. Y. R. RAMJAN, Member for Port Louis Maritime

The Honourable B. RAMLALLAH, Member for Poudre d'Or

The Honourable H. RAMNARAIN, Member for Piton

The Honourable R. N. RAMSAMY, Member for Curepipe†

The Honourable M. J. J. R. REY, Member for Moka

The Honourable V. RINGADOO, Member for Quartier Militaire

The Honourable J. N. ROY, Member for Plaine Magnien

The Honourable R. SEWGOBIND, Member for Vacoas

Dr. the Honourable L. TEELOCK, Member for Bon Accueil

The Honourable H. E. WALTER, Member for Mahébourg

The Honourable J. H. YTHIER, Member for Rose Hill

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*Election held void by the Supreme Court on the 17th June. New election held on the 21st September and Member re-elected.

†Election held void by the Supreme Court on the 25th June. Writ for new election issued on the 30th November and poll due to be taken on the 11th January, 1960.

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APPENDIX III—*continued*

Nominated Members

The Honourable J. E. M. L. AH-CHUEN

Dr. the Honourable L. R. CHAPERON

The Honourable C. C. DAVID

The Honourable L. R. DEVIENNE

The Honourable F. LAVENTURE

The Honourable M. A. D. R. MAIGROT, O.B.E. *(Deputy Chairman of Committees)*

The Honourable J. G. MARIE

The Honourable A. L. NAIRAC, C.B.E., Q.C.

The Honourable I. PEEROO

The Honourable M. J. A. E. PIAT

The Honourable P. G. R. RAULT

The Honourable M. R. G. ROCHECOUSTE

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APPENDIX IV

(Part III—Chapter 5: Reading list)

Leading Books on Mauritius

GENERAL

GENERALIA

UNIENVILLE, Marie Claude Antoine Marrier, *baron* d': Statisque de l'île Maurice et ses dépendances, suivie d'une notice historique sur cette colonie et d'un Essai sur l'île de Madagascar, Paris, G. Barba, 1838. 3 v.

A second edition was published in Port Louis, Typ. The Merchants and Planters Gazette, 1885–86, 3 vols, with phot. portr.

MAURITIUS. *Central Statistical Office.* Year Book of statistics. v. 1 (1946)—v. 13 (1958).

MACMILLAN, Allister, *ed*: Mauritius Illustrated. Historical and descriptive, commercial and industrial facts, figures, and resources. London, W. H. and L. Collingridge, 1914. 456, with numerous illus. and maps.

PRIDHAM, Charles. An historical, political and statistical account of Mauritius and its dependencies. London, T. and W. Boone, 1849. xiii, 410p.

WALTER, A. Chronological table of events in Mauritius, 1507–1916. Appendix to the Mauritius Almanac, (1917). Mauritius, The Mauritius Stationery and Printing Cy. Ltd., 1917. 57p.

Fairly complete for the period of British occupation.

CHAROUX Clément. Guide illustré de l'île Maurice. Port Louis. General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1936. 64, (32), IIp., illus.

TOUSSAINT, Auguste. Port Louis, deux siècles d'histoire, (1735–1935). Avec une Préface de Pierre Crépin, Docteur-ès-Lettres, Lauréat de l'Académie Française. Port Louis, La Typographie Moderne, 1936. (IX), 516p., with 50 plates and 9 maps.

Published on the occasion of the celebration of the bi-centenary of the foundation of Port Louis under the patronage of the Bi-centenary Committee, the Historical Records Committee and the Royal Society of Arts and Sciences of Mauritius. A very full account of the development of Port Louis.

BARNWELL, P. J. *and* TOUSSAINT, A. A short history of Mauritius. London, Longmans, Green & Co., 1949. 268p., illus.

SORNAY, Pierre de. Isle de France—Ile Maurice. Port Louis. The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1950. XIV, 550, XXVIIp., illus.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

TOUSSAINT, Auguste: Select bibliography of Mauritius. Port Louis. The Standard Printing and Stationery Establishment, 1951. 56p.

TOUSSAINT, A., *and* ADOLPHE, H. Bibliography of Mauritius (1502–1954), covering the printed record, manuscripts, archivalia and cartographic material. Port Louis, Esclapon Ltd. 1956. xvii, 884p.

ADMINISTRATIVE

ADMINISTRATION AND POLITICS

RAE, William Charles, *Comp.*: A handbook on the constitution, practice and proceedings of the Council of Government of Mauritius. Mauritius, Central Printing Establishment, 1896. XXXIX, 228p.

SWETTENHAM, *Sir* Frank Athestane, *and others*: Report of the Mauritius Royal Commission, 1909, presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty, June 1910 (Cd.5185). London, Eyre and Spottiswoode Ltd., 1910.60, XIIIp.

Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence printed separately (Cd. 5186), 581p. Documents received by the Commission also printed separately (Cd. 5187), 135p.

SWINDEN, J. B.: Local Government in Mauritius. Mauritius Government Press, 1946. 25p.

Revision of the Constitution. Correspondence with the Secretary of State for the Colonies. Mauritius, Government Press, 1947. 18p.

Problems of Parliamentary Government in Colonies—A report by the Hansard Society.

The development of rural local government in Mauritius. 12p. (Sessional Paper No. 2 of 1956).

Constitutional development in Mauritius. 56p. (Sessional Paper No. 3 of 1956).

Correspondence on proposals for Constitutional Changes 5p., (Sessional Paper No. 3 of 1957).

EVE, Malcolm Trustram. Report of the Mauritius Electoral Boundary Commission 48p. (Sessional Paper no. 1, 1958).

SOCIAL

POPULATION

BEEJADHUR, Aunauth, Les Indiens à l'Ile Maurice. Port Louis, La Typographie Moderne, 1935. 126p.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

THORNTON WHITE, L. W. A master plan for Port Louis, Mauritius. South Africa, Cape Times Ltd., 1953. 89p., diag., plans.

UNIENVILLE, Noël d': L'Ile Menacée. The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 109p., map. illus.

HERCHENRODER, M. *Chairman* Report of the Committee on population, 1953–54. 55p. (Sessional Paper no. 4, 1955).

MAURITIUS. *Central Statistical Office.* Natality and fertility in Mauritius, 1825–1955. 1956. 58p.

HAZAREESINGH, K. A history of Indians in Mauitius, Port Louis. The General Printing Establishment, 1950. 220pp.

SLAVERY

BERNARD, Eugène. Essai sur les nouveaux affranchis de l'Ile Maurice. Maurice, Imp. du Mauricien, 1834. 210p.

NOËL, Karl. La condition matérielle des esclaves à l'Ile de France, période française (1715–1810). *Revue d'Histoire des Colonies,* XL, 3e & 4e trimestre 1954, pp. 303–313.

TOUSSAINT, Auguste, *ed.* Les missions d'Adrien d'Epinay (1830–1834). Port Louis, The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1946. XXXII, 216p.

EDUCATION

MACQUET, Adolphe. L'instruction à l'Ile Maurice, ancienne Ile de France à l'origine de sa colonisation. Port Louis, Engelbrecht & Cie., 1890. 36p.

WARD, W. E. F.: Report on Education in Mauritius. Mauritius, Government Press, 1952. 58p.

Report of the Select Committee on the Ward Report on Education. Mauritius Government Press, 1953. 41p.

NICHOLS, A. E.: A report on secondary education in Mauritius. Mauritius, The Government Printer, 1949, 31, (2)p.

BENEDICT, Burton. Education without opportunity; education, economics and commulalism in Mauritius. University of London, Institute of Commonwealth Studies, Reprint no. 4. 15p. (from *Human Relations,* XI, 4(1958), 315–329).

ECONOMICS

ECONOMICS

ELLIOT, IVO D. *and* LOUGHNANE, N. G. Financial situation of Mauritius. Report of a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, December, 1931. Presented by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to Parliament by Command of His Majesty, March, 1932. (Cmd. 4034). London H.M. Stationery Office, 1932. 285p., map.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

HOOPER, Charles Arthur, *and others*: Report of the Commission of enquiry into unrest on sugar estates in Mauritius, 1937. Mauritius, Government Press, 1938. XXIII, 253p.

LUCE, R. W. Report to the Government of Mauritius on Employment, unemployment and underemployment in the Colony in 1958 together with Report on an investigation into Wages and conditions of employment of labourers and artisans in the Sugar Industry (Sessional Paper No. 7 of 1958).

LUCE, R. W. A time for decision (Sessional Paper No. 8 of 1958).

MOODY, S., *and others* Report of the Commission of Enquiry into the disturbances which occurred in the North of Mauritius in 1943. London, n.d. 81p., 1 map.

COODE *and* PARTNERS Report on harbour facilities and suggested improvements at Port Louis, Mauritius. The Government Printer. 12p., 3 diags.

MAURITIUS. *Central Statistical Office.* The national income and national accounts of Mauritius, 1948–1954. Port Louis, Government Printing, 1956. 33p.

AGRICULTURE AND AGRONOMY

NORTH COOMBES, A. Tea in Mauritius, 1817–1944. *Revue Agricole de l'île Maurice,* vol. XXIII, No. 6, Nov. – Dec. 1944. p. 238–241.

An historical survey of the tea industry.

NORTH COOMBES, G. A. The fibre industry of Mauritius. Port Louis. The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1951. 85p.

MAURITIUS CHAMBER OF AGRICULTURE. The President's report for the year 1953–54. Centenary Number. The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1954. 117p. illus. tabs.

DUPAVILLON, F. Le manguier à l'île Maurice. Esclapon Ltd., ii, 130p.

SUGARCANE

WALTER, A. The sugar industry of Mauritius: a study in correlation. London, Arthur L. Humphreys, 1910. XVI, 228p.

NORTH COOMBES, A. The Evolution of Sugarcane Culture in Mauritius, with a chapter on the Evolution of the Mauritian Sugar Factory. Mauritius, General Printing, 1937, xv 197, illus., map.

SORNAY, Pierre de La canne à sucre à l'île Maurice. Paris Challamel, 1920. VIII, 677p., illus., maps.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

SORNAY, P. DE, and SORNAY, A. DE: Manuel de la canne à sucre à l'usage des chargés de cours et des élèves des grandes écoles coloniales. Port Louis, The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1952. 279p. 22.5cm.
A revised 2nd edition.

SCIENTIFIC

METEOROLOGY

HERCHENRODER, Marc. La pluie à l'Ile Maurice. l'Etude de soixante années d'observations. Préface de Maxime Kœnig. Maurice, The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1935. 61p.

BOTANY

BAKER, J. G.: Flora of the Mauritius and the Seychelles. London, L. Reeve & Co., 1877, 557p.

VAUGHAN, R. E. *and* WIEHE, P. O.: Studies on the vegetation of Mauritius. *Journal of Ecology*, London. 1937–1947.

HUBBARD, C. E. and VAUGHAN, R. E.: The grasses of Mauritius and Rodriguez. With a foreword by Sir Arthur W. Hill, Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. London, Waterlow & Sons, 1940. 128p., illus.

ZOOLOGY

BAISSAC, J. de B.: Poissons de l'île Maurice. *Proceedings Royal Society of Arts and Sciences of Mauritius*, 1950.

HACHISUKA, M.: The Dodo and kindred birds of the Mascarene Islands. London, Witherby, 1953, 250p., illus.

MAMET, R.: Cococoidea of Mauritius. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1949.

MAMET, R.: Hemiptera of Mauritius. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1957.

ROUNTREE, F. R. G. *and others*: Birds of Mauritius. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1952.

STRICKLAND, H. E. *and* MELVILLE, H. E.: The Dodo and its kindred; or the history, affinities and osteology of the Dodo, Solitaire and other extinct birds of the islands Mauritius, Rodriguez and Bourbon. London, Reeve, Benham and Reeve, 1848. 142p., 9 woodcuts, 16 plates.

VINSON, J.: Lepidoptera of the Mascarene Islands. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1938.

VINSON, J.: Coleoptera of Mauritius and Rodriguez. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1956.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

WHEELER, DR. J. F. G. and OMMANNEY, DR. F. D.: Report on the Mauritius—Seychelles fisheries survey, 1948–49. London, H.M.S.O. 1953. 145p.

WILLIAMS, J. R.: Hymenoptera of Mauritius. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1958.

ART

BRADSHAW, T.: Views in the Mauritius, or Isle of France, drawn from nature by T. Bradshaw, and on stone by William Rider, of Leamington; with a memoir of island, and a description of each view. London, James Carpenter & Son, 1832. 40 plates.

LITERATURE

GENERAL

ITHIER, J. J. Wasley. La littérature de langue française à l'Ile Maurice. Paris, Lib. M.Lac, 1930. 288p.

ROSNAY, Edouard Fromet de. Table Ovale — Poètes créoles: anthologie mauricienne; galerie poétique de l'Ile de France, 1803–1897. Port Louis, The Planters Gazette, 1897. 522p.

LITERARY PRODUCTIONS: French

CHAROUX, Clément: L'Ile Maurice au temps des diligences. Port Louis, General Printing and Stationery Co. Ltd., 1932. 81p.

GUEVIN, Charles. Les savanaises, 1856–1866. T.I. and T.II. Port Louis, Typ. Mercantile Record, 1883; The Merchants and Planters Gazette, 1891.

HART, Robert-Edward: Mer Indienne, poèmes. Port Louis, General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1925. 82p.

LAGESSE, Marcelle. La diligence s'éloigne à l'aube. Port Louis, Esclapon, 1958. 252p.

L'HOMME, Léoville. Poésies et poèmes. Port Louis, Esclapon, 1927. 142p.

MASSON, Loys: L'étoile et la clef. Paris, Gallimard, 1946. 366p.

SAINT PIERRE, Jacques Henri, Bernardin de. Paul et Virginie.

First published in 1788 and since then often reprinted. The finest French edition is that of Curmer, Paris, 1838. A number of English and American translations are available.

STYLET, [Selmour AHNEE]. Fagots. 2v. Port Louis, Mauritius Printing Cy. Ltd., 1953, 1954. 288p. 330p.

LITERARY PRODUCTIONS: English

MALIM, Michael. Island of the Swan. London, Longmans, Green & Co. 1952. 232p.

OMMANEY, F. D. The Shoals of Capricorn. London, Spottiswoode, Ballantyne & Co. Ltd., 1952. 322p. illus.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

HISTORICAL

EARLY HISTORY

PITOT, Albert. T'Eylandt Mauritius. Esquisses historiques (1598–1710), précédées d'une notice sur la découverte des Mascareignes et suivies d'une monographie du Dodo, des Solitaires de Rodrigues et de Bourbon et de l'Oiseau Bleu. Maurice, Coignet frères & Cie., 1905. 372p.

The only complete history of Mauritius during the Dutch period.

VISDELOU-GUIMBEAU, G. de: La découverte des îles Mascareignes. Port Louis, the General Printing and Stationery Cy Ltd., 1949. 65p., illus.

CHAPUISET LE MERLE, André de. Précis d'histoire de l'Ile Maurice, XVe au XVIIIe siècle, Port Louis, Nouvelle Imprimerie Coopérative, 1950. 225p., illus.; maps.

FRENCH HISTORY

PITOT, Albert. L'Ile de France. Esquisses historiques (1715–1810) Port Louis, E. Pezzani, 1899. III, 447p.

MAHÉ DE LABOURDONNAIS, B. F. Mémoire des Iles de France et de Bourbon. Edité par Albert Lougnon et Auguste Toussaint. Paris, E. Leroux, 1937. IX, 204p.

The first complete edition of Labourdonnais' report to the French East India Company on his administration of Mauritius from 1735 to 1740, from the manuscript preserved in the Curepipe Carnegie Library, Mauritius.

PRENTOUT, Henri. L'Ile de France sous Decaen, 1803–1810, Paris Hachette, 1901. XIV 688p., front.

TOUSSAINT, A. *ed.* Early American Trade with Mauritius (Mauritius Archives Publications Esclapon Ltd. 86p.

UNIENVILLE, J. Raymond M. d'. Last years of the Isle de France (1800–1814) through texts compiled and presented by J. Raymond d'Unienville, Port Louis, The Mauritius Printing Co. Ltd., 1959. 244p. illus.

CHELIN, A. Le théâtre à l'Ile Maurice: son origine et son développement. The Mauritius Printing Cy. Ltd. (*Société de l'Histoire de l'Ile Maurice*, No. 5). iii, 109p.

LY-TIO-FANE, Madeleine, *ed.* Mauritius and the Spice trade: the odyssey of Pierre Poivre. (Publication No. 4 of the Mauritius Archives Publication Fund Committee). Esclapon Ltd., 1958. 148p., illus.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

BIOGRAPHY AND MEMOIRS

Dictionary of Mauritian Biography, *ed.* by Dr. A. Toussaint. Publication of Société de l'Histoire de l'Ile Maurice. 25 parts.

MAURE, André. Souvenirs d'un vieux colon de l'Ile Maurice renfermant tous les événements qui lui sont arrivés depuis 1790 jusqu'en 1837, époque du bill d'émancipation, ce qui renferme une période de 46 ans, dédiés à Sir Walter Minto Farquhar, baronet, gouverneur et capitaine-général des Iles Maurice et dépendances. La Rochelle, Typ. de Frédéric Boutet, 1840. (VI), 526p.

BIJOUX, J. O. Rémy Ollier, sa vie et son oeuvre. Jugement de la postérité. Port Louis, Nouvelle Imprimerie Co-opérative, 1910. 452p., 1 plate.

Rémy Ollier was prominent among those who struggled for the abolition of the colour bar in Mauritius in the first half of the 19th century.

CREPIN, Pierre. Mahé de Labourdonnais. Paris, E. Leroux, 1922. XXXVI, 488p., illus., maps.

Thesis submitted for the degree of *Docteur-ès-Lettres* of the University of Paris. Labourdonnais was one of the most successful French governors of Mauritius.

DELAPLACE, Rev. Père F. Le Père Jacques-Désiré Laval, apôtre de l'Ile Maurice, 1803–1864, *ed.*, revue et augmentée par le Père J. M. Pivault. Paris, Gabriel Beauchesne, 1932. XLVI, 396p. XII.

OLMSTED, J. M. D. Charles Edouard Brown-Séquard; a nineteenth century neurologist and endocrinologist. Baltimore, the Johns Hopkins press, 1946. 253p. front.

GEOGRAPHICAL

GEOGRAPHY

ARDILL, R. H. A School Geography of Mauritius. Mauritius Government Press, 1945. 55p., maps and diagrams.

Guide Bleu. Madagascar, Comores, Réunion, Ile Maurice; établi par Claude Janicot. Paris, Hachette, 1955. 7th Section, pp. 405–422.

TRAVELS

LEGUAT, François. Voyage et aventures de François Leguat et de ses compagnons en deux îles désertes des Indes Orientales, avec la relation des choses les plus remarquables qu'ils ont observées dans l'Isle Maurice, à Batavia, au Cap de Bonne

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

Espérance, dans l'isle de Ste. Hélène et en d'autres endroits de leur route. Londres, David Mortier, 1708. 2 vols. with plates and maps.

English edition with notes by Captain Pasfield Olivier for the Hakluyt Society. London, 1891, 2 vols.

SAINT PIERRE, Bernardin de: Voyage à l'Isle de France, à l'Isle de Bourbon, au Cap de Bonne Espérance . . . par un officier du Roi. Paris, Merlin, 1773. 2v.

BORY DE ST VINCENT, J. B. G. M. Voyage dans les quatre principales îles des mers d'Afrique, fait par ordre du gouvernement, pendant les années neuf et dix de la République (1801–1801) avec l'histoire de la traversée du Capitaine Budin jusqu'au Port Louis de l'Ile Maurice. Paris, F. Buisson, 1804. 3v. 1 atlas.

BILLIARD, Auguste. Voyage aux colonies orientales, ou lettres écrites des Iles de France et de Bourbon pendant les années 1817, 1818, 1819 et 1820 à M. le Cte. de Montalivet. Paris, Ladvocat, 1822. XIX, 406p.

BACKHOUSE, James. A narrative of a visit to the Mauritius and South Africa. London, Hamilton, Adams & Co., 1844 xvi, 648p. lvip.

RYAN, Vincent W. Mauritius and Madagascar; journals of an eight years' residence in the diocese of Mauritius and of a visit to Madagascar. London, Seeley, Jackson and Halliday, 1864. ix, 340p.; illus.

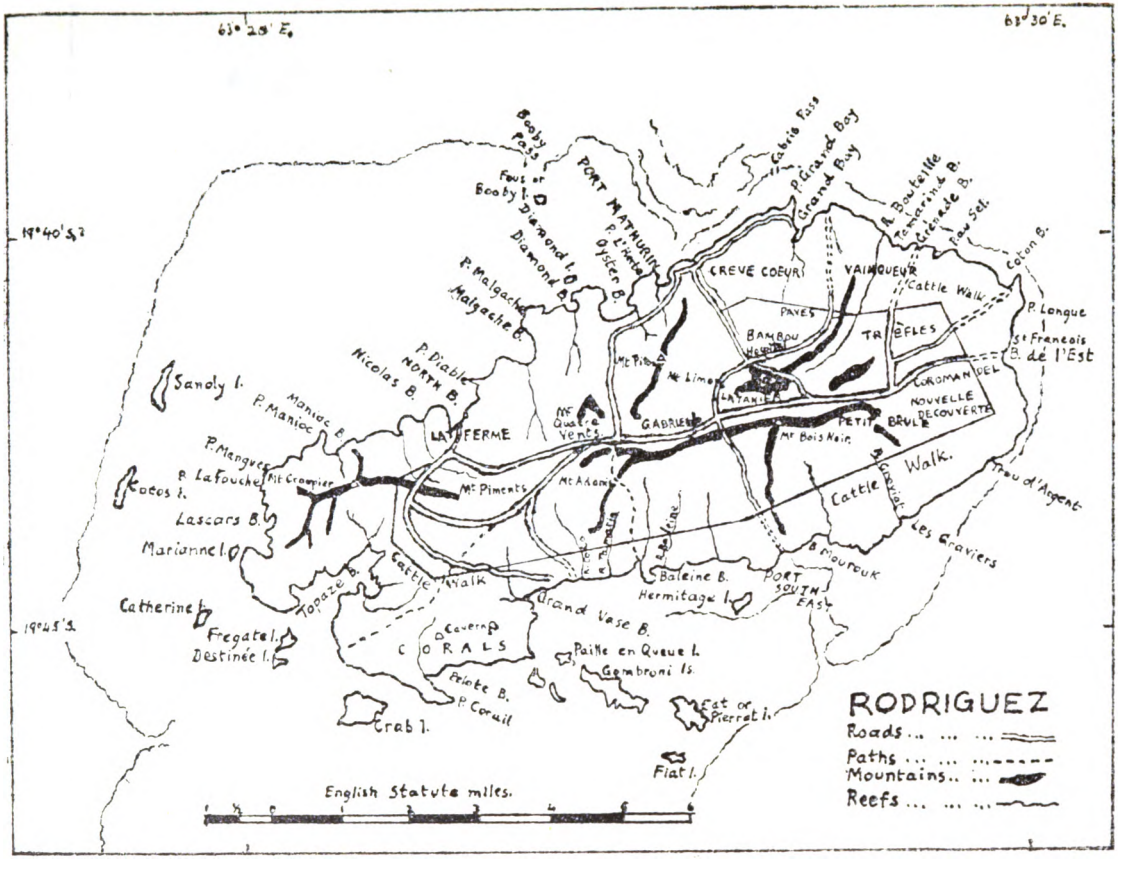
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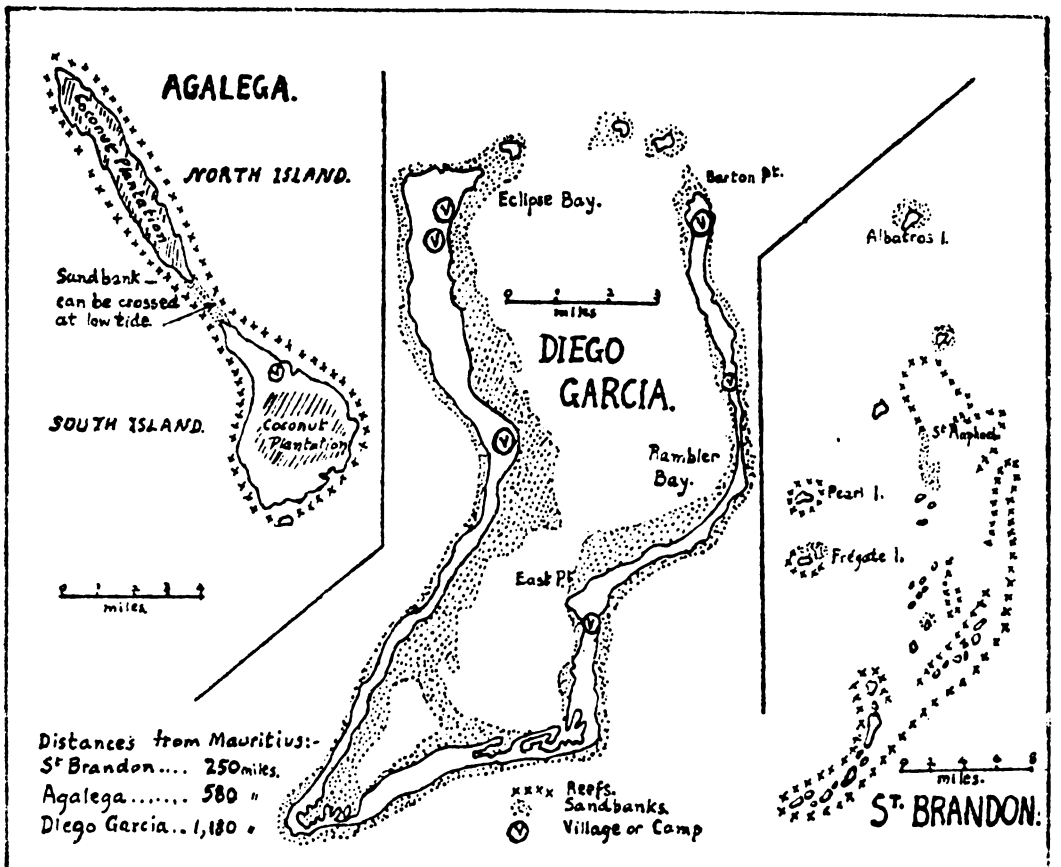

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Mauritius (Br.)
Round I.
Flat I.
Gabriel I.
Gunners Quoin
C. Malheureux
Grand Bay
MONT CHOISY EMERGENCY LANDING STRIP
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Amber I.
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PAMPLEMOUSSES
Pamplemousses
Rivière du Rempart
Terre Rouge
Richelerres
Roche Bois
Mt Longue
Arsenal Bay
Tombeau Bay
Grand River N.W.
PORT Llouis
Mt CALEBASSES 2066
THE POUCE 2811
PITER BOTH 2690
Coromandel
Petite Rivière B.
Albion
Belle Isle
Medine
Quatre Bornes
Phoenix
Rose Hill
Beau Bassin
Moka
St Pierre
Quartier Militaire
Vacoas
Curepipe
Midlands
Tamarin Bay
Black River B.
Mare Longue
Mare aux Vacoas
Nouvelle France
Cluny
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Mahébourg
Fouquets I.
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Benitiers I.
PITON DE LA PETITE RIVIÈRE NOIRE 2711
BLACK RIV GORGES
LE MORNE BRABANT 1609
Mt SAVANNE 2314
Bois Cheri
Riviere Dragon
Mare d'Albert
PLAISANCE AIRPORT
Union Vale
Blue Bay
Brocus I.
Choisy
Ruisseau Créole
Chemin Grenier
Souillac
R. des Anguilles
Baie du Cap
Jacotet Bay
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Mauritius

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COLONY OF MAURITIUS

Gt. Brit, Colonial Office.

Report

on

Mauritius

1960

LONDON
HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
1961
(Printed in Mauritius)

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PART I

Review of the Year 1960

The Cyclones

Two violent cyclones visited Mauritius during the year, after a period of 15 years free from important cyclones. On the 19th January, *Alix* struck the island; on the 28/29th February, came *Carol*, the second cyclone, even more deadly and destructive than the first. 42 persons were killed and 95 seriously injured; 1,677 were taken to hospital for treatment. Approximately 70,000 buildings were destroyed, the majority of them dwelling houses or huts. Some 34,800 houses were damaged and another 28,000 damaged less seriously. About 80,000 refugees thronged the Refugee Centres. Many others were sheltered by friends and relatives or remained in their partially wrecked homes. The island's supplies of power, light, and water were seriously interrupted.

Immediately after each cyclone, relief measures were set up to provide shelter, food and medical aid. To assist and reinforce Government's resources the Governor's Mauritius Cyclone Relief Fund was instituted after *Alix* under the control of a representative supervisory committee. The balance of the fund, which was used to provide assistance in the form of clothing, bedding and household utensils for the homeless, amounted to some Rs 476,000 at the close of the year. Assistance was also received from Her Majesty's Government, the Kenya Government, the Republic of India, the Republic of Madagascar, and U.N.I.C.E.F.

To house the homeless, temporary shelters were put up throughout the island, to which families were moved from the refugee centres, priority being given to families which included children under fourteen years of age. The full resources and energy of the island were devoted to the problems of relief and reconstruction.

The telephone and telegraph network was severely damaged by both cyclones and service was only completely restored at the end of the year. Repairs to roads, bridges and water suplies were nearing completion by the same date, and more than 300 government buildings out of a total of 517 damaged were repaired during the year. About 90 per cent of Local Authority buildings were repaired with government loans.

Political

On the departure of Sir Robert Stanley, K.B.E., C.M.G., Speaker of the Legislative Council, Mr. Harilall Ranchordass Vaghjee, Barrister-at-Law, was appointed Speaker. Mr. Vaghjee is the first Mauritian, and the second Speaker since the creation of this post in 1956.

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In compliance with the writ for the holding of the bye-election for Curepipe Constituency, which was issued on the 30th November, 1959, the poll was taken on the 11th January. Mr.Charles Gaëtan Duval, Barrister-at-Law, member of the Parti Mauricien, was returned in the place of the Labour member returned in the 1959 general election.

On the assumption of office of the new Colonial Secretary towards the end of the year, it was considered opportune, and in keeping with the stage of constitutional development of the Colony, to transfer to the senior elected member, the Honourable Dr. S. Ramgoolam, Minister of Finance, the duties of Leader of the House. These duties, which include the arrangements for meetings of the Legislative Council and the co-ordination of Government business in the Council, had hitherto been the Colonial Secretary's responsibility.

The Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs was integrated with the Department of Education with effect from the 1st July, under the Education (Amendment) Ordinance, 1960 (No. 2 of the year) and the Department of Public Works (Transfer of Control) Ordinance, 1960 (No. 34 of the year), providing for the transfer of the Department of Public Works and Surveys to the control of the Minister of Works and Internal Communications was passed towards the close of the year.

As a result of the cyclones, the opening of the 1960 session of the Legislative Council was postponed to the 22nd March and was not accompanied by the usual ceremonies. Council was prorogued on the 20th December. The names of the members of the Legislative Council are given in Appendix III.

Economic and Financial

The damage caused by the two cyclones reduced the production of sugar from the record figure of 580,372 metric tons in 1959 to 235,578 metric tons in 1960.

The negotiated price under the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement was £44.8.10d per ton. The exports for the year fell short of the negotiated price quota by some 50,000 long tons, and their gross value was of the order of Rs 140,000,000. The negotiated price for the calendar year 1961 has been fixed at £45.2.0d

Tea production at 1,732,875 lbs showed a decrease of some 264,228 lbs; exports at 465,088 lbs also showed a decrease of 557,288 lbs as compared with 1959. This decrease in production and exports was due to the loss of crop caused by cyclones *Alix*

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and *Carol*. The new Government Tea Factory, which had come into operation during 1959, was badly damaged by the cyclones, and was out of action for the greater part of the year.

The closing of the Colony's accounts for the year 1959–60 showed a deficit of Rs 7.2 million against an estimated deficit of Rs 5 million, expenditure having been underesimated by Rs1.9 million and revenue overestimated by Rs 4.8 million. The deficit is almost entirely due to an increase in expenditure and a shortfall in revenue resulting from the two cyclones.

The Colony's Five Year Development Programme for the period 1957–62, which was initially estimated to cost some Rs 210.252 million included provision for development in the following flelds *(inter alia)*—Agriculture, Water Supplies, Sewerage, Electricity, Roads, Harbour, Schools, Hospitals and Housing Schemes. In view of the two cyclones which ravaged the island, this programme was wound up and a new one for the five year period 1960–65 is being formulated. The new programme will concentrate upon repair and recontruction of cyclone damage and upon the construction of cyclone-proof houses. At the same time it is hoped to diversify the economy of the island by the encouragement of secondary industies. The winding up of the Capital Expenditure Programme for 1957–62 did not affect the three major schemes on which a start has already been made, namely, the Plaines Wilhems Sewerage Scheme, the Port Louis Trunk Road and the Port Louis Harbour development project.

An Economic Mission headed by Professor Meade of Cambridge University visited Mauritius in March and April, to survey the island's economic and social structure and to make recommendations concerning action to be taken in order to render the country capable of maintaining and improving the standard of living of its people. The mission submitted its report towards the end of the year.

Social Services

An important change was made in the existing ministerial system by integrating the Education Department with the Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs. Another important event of the year was the admission of Mauritius as an Associate Member of UNESCO. This occurred at the 11th Conference of UNESCO, which was attended by the Honourable A. Beejadhur, Minister of Education and Cultural Affairs.

No major health problem arose, in spite of two severe cyclones. With the help of other departments and local voluntary organisations, the Health Department set up emergency health and

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sanitary arrangements in refugee centres and in hospitals, and an extra scavenging service was provided throughout the island. An extensive anti-typhoid inoculation campaign was also undertaken with the help of Medical Officers of H.M.S. *"Gambia"*, and of the French training cruiser *"Jeanne D'Arc"* which called immediately after the second cyclone. 251,028 persons received one injection of T.A.B. vaccine and 163,258 presented themselves for a second injection.

As a result of the cyclones, several building projects and extensions to hospitals had to be temporarily suspended. Two new dispensaries were opened in rented buildings: one in Phoenix and one in Port Louis. Work has been progressing on a new Dental Clinic at Rose Hill and the two Health Centres at Curepipe and Vacoas. An up-to-date kitchen has been provided at the Brown Sequard Hospital.

As in past years, Mauritius continued to receive valuable assistance from the World Health Organisation. The plan for the final phase of eradication of malaria was implemented during the year with the help of the Organisation. A campaign for the control of tuberculosis has also been started.

Mr. A. E. Cooper, H.F.A., Group Secretary of the Central Middlesex Group Hospital Managing Committee, undertook a survey of the administration of hospitals in the island at the request of the Minister of Health and Reform Institutions, and submitted a report which is now under consideration.

A few days after Cyclone *Carol* the 'Titmuss Mission' arrived in the Colony to complete investigations into social security, health and welfare. The Titmuss Report entitled 'Social Policies and Population Growth in Mauritius' was received towards the end of the year.

A Ministerial fact finding mission visited British Guiana, British Honduras and Brazil in September and October to study the possibilities of emigration.

Progress continued with housing. Of the Rs 10,000,000 provided in the 1957–62 Capital Expenditure Programme for housing loans to Local Authorities in urban areas, Rs 2,680,000 had been issued by the end of the year. The two housing schemes in the township of Quatre Bornes (Cité St. Jean and Newton House) were completed during the year.

Public Utilities

The extension of the domestic water supply system continued to make satisfactory progress.

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Production of electricity fell to 54.6 million units in 1960 as compared with 55.9 million produced in 1959. A substantial amount of surplus power from sugar factories was purchased during the crushing season by the Central Electricity Board and 4.9 million units from that source were fed into the public network, as against some 8.5 million in 1959. Work on new hydro-electric schemes proceeded satisfactorily. The Magenta hydro-electric scheme was completed at the end of the year and the station, which has a capacity of 1,000 Kw. started generating in December. Thermal generation at about 37.5 per cent of the total power produced, continues to provide an uneconomically high proportion of power sold.

Communications

The public railway system, which is used for the conveyance of goods only, continued to run at a loss. Bus services, however, improved and public service vehicle licences were granted by the Licensing Authority on several additional bus routes. The number of buses had increased by the end of the year to 443. This figure includes 23 small buses, each with seating accommodation for 10 persons, which have proved useful and economical for urban routes. A daily average of 116,000 pasengers travelled by bus.

The radio-telephone service operated by Cable & Wireless Ltd. was further extended during the year to include Poland, Spain and Yugoslavia. In addition to the United Kingdom, East Africa, Canada and the United States of America most of the countries of Europe are now linked to Mauritius on the international telephone network. Arrangements have been made with the Telecommunications Department whereby both incoming and outgoing calls may be connected through the internal public telephone system, at the discretion of Cable & Wireless Ltd., to suit the convenience of the public.

Communication with the Dependencies is ensured by a passenger steamship service, with eight to ten sailings a year to Rodrigues. The minor dependencies are linked regularly by ships belonging to the commercial companies, to which the islands are leased for the production of copra or the exploitation of the offshore fishing.

The Public Service

A Demarcation Agreement was reached in Central Whitley Council, following the recommendations made by Mr. R. A. Hayward, Secretary-General of the Staff Side of the Civil Service National Whitley Council of the United Kingdom, who paid a short visit to the Colony in 1959. Ministries and Government Departments were circularised as to the Association or Trade Union

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appropriate for the interests of the various classes of civil servants. The wide publicity given to the Agreement has improved the standard and increased the extent of consultative machinery, thus assisting the growth of a strong and responsible system of Whitleyism. The lines of demarcation prescribed by the Agreement have reduced competition among Unions for membership and recognition.

Another feature of Whitley Council affairs was the issue of a Joint Appeal by the Colonial Secretary and the President of the Federation of Civil Service and Primary Aided School Teachers' Unions, inviting all civil servants to join a Civil Service Staff Association or Trade Union with a view to establishing a fully representative Staff Side.

Towards the end of the year, a special Committee of the Central Whitley Council was appointed to study claims, in respect of salary adjustments, arising from the implementation of the recommendations embodied in 1957 in the Report on the review of salaries of senior officers of the Mauritius Civil Service, and the Report of the Working Party appointed to review the structure, operation and system of recruitment of the Public Service. At the close of the year the examination of these claims had not been completed.

Dependencies

His Excellency the Governor accompanied by Lady Deverell spent six days in Rodrigues in June. The Governor had the opportunity of inspecting the extensive soil and water conservation works being undertaken under the Agricultural Development Plan.

The first Fire Station of Rodrigues was opened in June. The station is equipped with a Land Rover, 2 trailer pumps and 2 water carriers. Two new electrical range lights were erected in December to assist shipping entering and leaving the bay of Port Mathurin in darkness.

Honours

Her Majesty the Queen was graciously pleased to approve the following appointments and awards on the occasion of the New Year and on Her Birthday:—

New Year

Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire

Dr. Louis Abel Celestin, M.C., M.D. (Lond.).

Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire

Gerald Jackson Bryan, M.C., Establishment Secretary.

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Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire

LOUIS RENÉ ABEL, Finance Officer, Grade I.

JOSEPH RAYMOND DUVERGÉ, Secretary, Public Service Commission.

BIRTHDAY

Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire

RAYMOND MARIE ANTOINE BERENGER, B.Sc. (Eng.), A.M.I. Mun. E., Director of Public Works and Surveys (Establishment).

Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire

WILLIAM GEORGE WILSON, Financial Secretary.

Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire

MISS MARGUERITE ADAM, Confidential Clerk to His Excellency the Governor.

AYOUB GOPAUL, Area Superintendent — Education Department.

Imperial Service Order

WILLY BOURDET, Postmaster General.

Colonial Police Medal

JOSEPH MAURICE ITHIER.

Certificates and Badges of Honour

His Excellency the Governor approved the following awards on the occasion of the New Year and on Her Majesty's Birthday: —

NEW YEAR

ABLE-SEAMAN JOSEPH H. AGLAR, for courage and initiative while on duty with the Mauritius Naval Volunteer Force.

MISS L. CHRESTIA, for loyal service in the Colonial Secretary's Office.

JEAN REGNARD, for public service in connection with local government.

KHALIC MAHAMODE BEEBEEJAUN, for public service in connection with local government and social welfare.

BIRTHDAY

WILFRID CALCUTTEEA, for public services in connection with social welfare.

MRS. BARTHÉLEMY JULES COLIN, for public services in connection with social welfare and charitable activities.

BISNATH BUNDHOOA, for public services in connection with local government and the Co-operative movement.

MRS. IDA REMY, for loyal service in the Department of Education.

ESSOO PITCHAMOOTOO, for loyal service in the Department of Agriculture.

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List of Visitors

Rt. Hon. Iain Macleod, M.P., Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Lady Joan Whittington, O.B.E., Director-General of the British Red Cross.

Robert Lamine, Producer Europe No. 1, Broadcasting Services.

Mr. E. S. Snelling, United Kingdom, Ministry of Education.

Mr. Peter Howson, Australian M.P.

Mr. Lars Holmberg, Swedish free-lance Journalist, lecturer and radio Commentator.

Mr. A. J. Archibald, M.I.C.E., Formerly Director of Housing, Johannesburg.

Messrs. D. H. Tribolet, O. E. Nilsson, J. S. Walker, T. R. M. Sloane, H.E. Hughes, Senior Australian Educationalists.

Sir Alister Mc Mullin, K.C.M.G., President of the Senate of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Mr. Andrew Ferry, Private Secretary to Sir Alister Mc Mullin, K.C.M.G.

Dr. V. S. Jha, Director of the Commonwealth Education Liaison Unit.

Mr. G. W. I. Shipp, Secretary of the Overseas Employers' Federation.

Mr. R. C. Snider, Co-Ordinator of the International Indian Ocean Expedition.

Professor R. Titmuss, London School of Economics.

Dr. Brian Abel-Smith, London School of Economics.

Mr. Tony Lynes, Professor Titmuss' Research Assistant.

Professor James Meade, Chair of Political Economy at the University of Cambridge, Chairman of the Economic Survey Mission together with his colleagues:—

- Mr. Lees, Industrial Consultant with the World Bank.
- Mr. Selwyn, Specialist on Economic Development.
- Mr. Marshall, Specialist on Animal Health.
- Mr. Roddan, Specialist on Agriculture.
- Mr. Foggon, Specialist on Labour Relations.
- Mr. Houghton, Specialist on Education.
- Mr. Russell, Seconded from the Mauritius Department of the Colonial Office to act as Secretary.

H. E. Sir Gladwyn Jebb, Former British Delegate to U.N.O. and Ambassador of Britain in Paris. He was accompanied by his Private Secretary Mr. Shakespeare, Mr. Ranarivelo, Director of the Cabinet of the Malagasy Republic and Mr. Merle, Diplomatic Adviser.

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DR. MARY AGARD POCOCK, Marine biologist of international repute and honorary lecturer at the University of Rhodes and Cape University.

DR. GILBERT GILLAIN, of Réunion Island, accompanied 6 polio victims for treatment in Mauritius.

MR. MORIN, Commercial Director of Air France in Tananarive.

COLONEL YELDHAM, Former Officer Commanding Troops, Mauritius and one of the first three Civil Commissioners appointed in the Colony.

SIR ROBERT MACINTOSH, Doctor in medecine and professor in anaesthetics at Oxford University.

MR. V. GARRATT, Adviser on Prisons to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

DR. B. R. MADGWICK, Vice-Chancellor of the University of New South Wales, Australia.

PROFESSOR K. S. ISLES, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Tasmania.

MR. K. T. MAIDMENT, Vice-Chancellor of the Auckland University, New Zealand.

MESSRS STEPHEN PAT CASS ALEXANDER, B.A. (Cantab) and WILLIAM JOHN BECKETT, B.A. (Hons.) (Cantab), Members of the International Voluntary Service.

MR. A. H. COOPER, H.F.A., Secretary of the Board of Directors of Central Middlesex Hospital.

DR. W. B. INGLIS, O.B.E., M.R., Ed. B., Ph. D., F.E.I.S., Principal of Moray House.

DR. SYDNEY WATSON, Doctor in Music.

MR. VIGNOLI, Professor at the Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy of Marseilles.

MR. ANDRÉ DAVY, Director of France Presse (Indian Ocean Section).

MISS SHAKUNTALA DEVI, World renowned Mathematical Prodigy.

LT. COL. DAVID STERLING.

VISITING SHIPS

The Colony was visited by French aircraft tender *"Commandant Robert Giraud"* in February: Navire Ecole *Jeanne d'Arc* and H.M.S. *Gambia* in March; H.M.S. *Mounts Bay* in April; H.M.S. *Gambia* in May; H.M.S. *Puma* Commander John Marriot 8th June—embarked H.E. the Governor to St. Brandon and returned on 10th and stayed till 16th June; French Ship *Le Bearnais* in June and Netherlands Aircraft Carrier H.N.L.M.S. *Karel Doorman* in July.

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PART II

Chapter I: Population

A census of the population, which was taken during the night of the 28th—29th June, 1952, gave the following results:

Males ...	...	252,032
Females	...	249,383
TOTAL	...	501,415

The population of Mauritius as at the 31st December, 1960, was estimated therefrom at 648,850.

The natural increase, that is the excess of births over deaths in 1960 was 18,059, a number which is nearly 7 times the corresponding average for the five pre-war years (1935–39).

Civilian departures from the Colony exceeded arrivals by 351.

The average density of the population for the Island was 887 per square mile (calculated on the mid-year population).

BIRTHS

The number of live births during the year 1960 was 25,307 an increase of 1,384 on the number for 1959, but an increase of 1,537 on the yearly average number of births for the ten years ending with 1959:

Males	*Females*	*Total*	*Male births per 1,000 female births*
12,973	12,334	25,307	1,052

The following are the birth rates (per 1,000 of the mid-year population) for the last six years:

1955	*1956*	*1957*	*1958*	*1959*	*1960*
41.8	43.8	43.1	40.8	38.5	39.6

Still-births, which are not included as either births or deaths, numbered 1,783 (956 males, 825 females and 2 sex unknown), corresponding to a rate of 7.0 per hundred live-births, as compared with 1,759 still-births, corresponding to a rate of 7.4 in 1959.

DEATHS

Deaths registererd in Mauritius numbered 7,248, corresponding to a rate of 11.3 per 1,000 of the population. The month of maximum mortality was August with 684 deaths:

	Males	*Females*	*Total*
Number of deaths in 1959 ...	3,706	3,542	7,248
Rate per 1,000 of population	11·5	11·2	11·3

The average death rate for the period 1950–1959 was 13.6

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Infantile Mortality

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age during 1960 was 1,760 (1,495 in 1959). This number was considerably lower than in the quinquennial period 1944–48.

The following table shows the infantile mortality rate (ie., the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live-births):—

Year	*Rate*
1944–1948 (average)	154·9
1953	93·5
1954	81·1
1955	67·2
1956	66·0
1957	75·1
1958	67·4
1959	62·5
1960	69·5

Marriages

The following table gives the number of marriages for the last five years:

1956	*1957*	*1958*	*1959*	*1960*
3,080	2,903	3,169	3,297	3,113

Movement of the Civil Population

	Males	*Females*	*Total*
Arrivals ...	6,566	3,857	10,423
Departures...	6,932	3,842	10,774

These figures include the very small figure of engaged or discharged seamen, and emigrants and immigrants to and from the dependencies.

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Chapter 2: Occupations, Wages and Labour Organization

EMPLOYMENT

The distribution of manual workers employed in the Public Services and in the various industries of the Colony in 1960 is shown in the table below:—

	Men	*Women*	*Juveniles*	*Total*
(*a*) *Public Services*;—				
Government Departments ...	9,970	593	115	10,678
Local Authorities...	1,369	64	35	1,468
TOTAL ...	11,339	657	150	12,146
(*b*) *Sugar Industry*	40,832	13,481	2,422	56,735
(*c*) *Other Industries*—				
Aerated Minerales	131	25	1	157
Aloe Fibre...	357	709	32	1,098
Bakeries	508	64	20	592
Bus Coach Builders	109	—	25	134
Cigarette Factories	206	173	3	382
Compounders	30	12	2	44
Contractors—Building	2,917	55	159	3,131
Contractors—Other	1,606	—	—	1,606
Distilleries...	69	1	10	80
Docks	1,401	6	—	1,407
Electricity...	813	2	26	841
Jewelleries	243	—	46	289
Lime Kilns	231	116	5	352
Match Factories	11	15	2	28
Oil expelling	40	—	1	41
Printing Establishments... ...	252	—	47	299
Sack Factory	225	121	2	348
Salt Pans	81	55	11	147
Sawmills	356	—	—	356
Shoe-making	132	19	—	151
Stevedoring Companies	1,043	—	—	1,043
Stone Crushing	337	41	35	413
Sugar Planters' Mechanical Pool	173	--	—	173
Tanneries	30	2	—	32
Tea	1,240	598	282	2,120
Tobacco	1,113	981	201	2,295
Transport	845	—	—	845
Wine Factories	185	127	14	326
Workshops (Motor)	769	—	162	931
Workshops (Other)	702	2	104	808
TOTAL OTHER IGDUSTRIES ...	16,155	3,124	1,190	20,469
GRAND TOTAL	68,326	17,262	3,762	89,350

In order to reckon the total number of persons economically active in the Colony, one would have to add self-employed persons, of whom there are many small 'planters' or 'farmers' and domestic servants not shown in the above table.

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The main industry of the Island is the growing of sugar as a plantation crop. The seasonal variation of employment between harvest, or 'crop' season, from July to December, and the inter-crop season is shown in the following table:—

		Average inter-crop	*Average crop*	*Average whole year*
Artisans and drivers ...		4,186	4,064	4,125
Sirdars and labourers:—				
Men	34,622	38,792	36,707	
Women	13,311	13,651	13,481	
Juveniles	2,363	2,481	2,422	
		50,296	54,924	52,610
		54,482	58,988	56,735

Other industries provide employment for some 7,952 skilled workers, 8,203 unskilled men, 3,124 women and 1,190 juveniles, and the public services for 2,737 skilled workers, 8,602 unskilled men, 657 women, and 150 juveniles.

The total number of persons employed in industry and the public services was 89,350, of whom 16,780 were skilled workers, 51,546 unskilled men and 21,024 women and juveniles.

Alcohol and molasses are produced as by-products of sugar; other agricultural industries are tea, tobacco, aloe fibre and market gardening; milch cows and other livestock are reared on a small scale. There is also a small fishing industry.

Secondary industries include sack-making (from locally-produced aloe fibre), automobile repair and other engineering works, furniture manufacture, match manufacture, tanning, manufacture of clothing and footwear, printing, sawmilling, manufacture of salt and lime and charcoal burning.

The number of persons registered as unemployed at the Employment Registration Bureau and the number of workers placed during the year 1960 was as follows:—

	Unemployed persons	*Placings*
January	3,183	360
February	3,399	638
March	3,562	988
April	2,144	531
May	2,094	465
June	2,357	222
July	2,230	247
August	1,643	200
September	1,614	180
October	1,639	101
November	1,647	137
December	1,462	209

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Wages and Hours of Work

The average weekly earnings and the average number of hours worked in the principal industries are shown in the following tables:—

Industry	*Category of workers*	*Average weekly earnings*	*No. of hrs worked per week*
		Rs. c.	
1. Sugar ...	Artisans	58 73	45
	Drivers	41 58	45
	Sirdars	35 00	45
	Labourers: Men (Grade I) ...	31 63	37
	Men (Grade II) ..	21 78	35
	Women	17 36	33
	Juveniles	15 00	35
2. Aloe fibre ...	Artisans and drivers	35 63	48
	Factory workers (scrapers) ...	30 00	48
3. Bakeries ...	Brigadiers	67 28	60 to 72
	Coupeurs	67 21	60 to 72
	Petrisseurs	47 18	60 to 72
4. Tea ...	Factory workers (artisans) ...	38 10	48
	Labourers (field)	27 11	48

The daily wage rates and weekly hours of work of manual workers in the public sevices were as follows:—

	Maximum wages	*Minimum wages*	*No. of hrs. worked per week*
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	
Foremen	13 10	9 90	45
Artisans	9 90	6 40	45
Hospital servants ...	6 20	5 20	45
Labourers	5 20	4 20	45

Most Government departments work from 9 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. on weekdays with a half-hour break for lunch, and from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. Others have adopted the five-day week, and work from 8.45 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a half-hour break. Business offices follow more or less the same practice.

Cost of Living

The Labour Department's Cost of Living Index figures* for agricultural labourers in the year 1960, were:—

January ...	148·9	July ...	149·7
February	152·1	August ...	147·6
March ...	155·2	September	148·4
April ..	155·2	October ...	148·0
May ...	153·6	November	148·2
June ...	151·6	December	148·9

* Base 1946 = 100

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The Labour Department

The Labour Department can trace some link in the past with the Office of the Protector of Slaves, for that office was succeeded by the Bureau of the Protector of Immigrants and, when immigration had ceased, the Poor Law Commissioner occupied the building and also administered the Immigration Law. This law was thoroughly revised in 1878, again in 1922, and again in 1938. The same year an Ordinance legalised the existence of industrial associations and the Director of Labour was given certain powers for regulating the settlement of industrial disputes. The Labour Ordinance (Cap. 214) provides for the appointment of a Director of Labour and staff in order to " perform all duties imposed and exercise all powers conferred " on him by this Ordinance. The title of Director of Labour was later changed to that of Labour Commissioner.

The functions of the Department include the uniform administration of legislation relating to labour. By this means too, effect is given to the International Labour Conventions which have been applied to the Colony, the provisions of which have been incorporated in appropriate legislation and administrative instructions. Frequent inspections of places of work including factories are carried out, and camps in which workers are housed are similarly inspected. When necessary, proceedings are taken against alleged offenders in the Industrial Court.

Other duties include advice to employers and workers in matters relating to employment, assistance and advice to trade unions in the conduct of their affairs, promotion of the settlement of trade disputes through conciliation or other appropriate means, the maintenance of an Employment Exchange service, and the collection of statistics relating to labour.

The Department is organised into:—

The Headquarters, under the Labour Commissioner and the Deputy Labour Commissioner;

The Field Inspectorate under two Assistant Labour Commissioners;

The Factory Inspectorate, under a Factory Inspector;* and

The Employment Exchange, under a Manager.

The Registrar of Associations is also a member of the Staff of the Labour Department and deals with the registration of trade unions, associations and superannuation funds, as legally

* Not in post during 1960.

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empowered under the Trade Union Ordinance (No. 36 of 1954), the Registration of Associations Ordinance (No. 45 of 1949) and the Employees Superannuation Fund Ordinance (No. 28 of 1954) respectively. The statutory powers and duties of the Registrar of Associations are not shared by the Labour Commissioner.

Trade Unions

There were at the end of June, 1960, seventy-two trade unions consisting of 35 associations of employees in private employment, 26 of government servants, 9 of employers and 2 registered federations. The total membership on the rolls was 25,808 of which 23,807 were compliance members.

The larger workers' trade unions are:—

The Plantation Workers' Union (8,385 members),

The Agricultural Workers' Union (3,965 members),

The Government Servants' and Other Employees' Association (1,380 members),

The General Port and Harbour Workers' Union (1,038 members),

The Artisans and General Workers' Union (1,611 members),

The Government General Employees' Union (1,435 members).

The larger employers' trade unions are:—

The Mauritius Tobacco Producers' Syndicate (75 members),

The Mauritius Cane Growers' Association (47 members),

The Mauritius Sugar Producers' Association (22 members),

The Taxi Owners' Association (59 members),

The Mauritius Butchery Owners' Association (145 members).

Labour Disputes and Settlements

Labour disputes involving stoppages of work were settled as follows:—

Industry	*Employer*	*Method of Settlement*
(i) Agriculture ...	Midlands Tea Estate	Conciliation
(ii) Engineering ...	Cassis Ltd.	Board of Enquiry
(iii) Services ...	United Bus Service Co.	Conciliation
do ...	do	Board of Enquiry
do ...	Vacocs Transport Co.	do
do ...	H. Moedine Garage...	Conciliation

(There was also a one-day token strike in 6 establishments)

Other major disputes were settled as follows:—

Industry	*Employer*	*Method of Settlement*
(i) Civil Service ...	Government	Central Whitley Council
(ii) Manufacturing ...	British American Tobacco Co. (Mauritius) Ltd.	Conciliation

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Social Security

Compensation is payable to injured workmen in accordance with the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance (Cap. 220).

All monthly employed workers aged eighteen years or over engaged in the sugar industry contribute to the Sugar Industry Pension Fund, set up under Ordinance No. 42 of 1955.

Industrial Training

The Apprenticeship Ordinance (No. 13 of 1946) governs contracts of apprenticeship. So far two industries have been designated under it, viz. ' that branch of trade in the engineering industry actually engaged in the manufacture and repair of machinery ' and ' that branch of trade in the automobile repairs industry actually engaged in the repair and maintenance of automobile machinery '. Legal ' Provisions ' have been promulgated under the Ordinance for the control of apprenticeship in these two trades, and Apprenticeship Committees have been set up.

A Technical Institute run by the Education Department commenced to operate in temporary accommodation in February 1959.

Factories

The total number of registered factories on 31st December, 1960, was 479, including 23 sugar factories.

Legislation

The main body of labour legislation is contained in the following substantive enactments and their related subsidiary legislation:

The Boilers Ordinance	Cap. 209
The Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Ordinance	Cap. 211
The Labour Ordinance	Cap 214
The Recruitment of Workers Ordinance	Cap. 218
The Safety of Dockers Ordinance	Cap. 219
The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance	Cap. 220
The Apprenticeship Ordinance	No. 13 of 1946
The Factories Ordinance	No. 42 of 1946
The Employment Exchange Ordinance	No. 67 of 1947
The Minimum Wages Ordinance	No. 36 of 1950
The Trade Union Ordinance	No. 36 of 1954
The Trade Disputes Ordinance	No. 37 of 1954

The following substantive legislation affecting labour was passed during 1960:

The Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 57 of 1960).

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The following Government Notices affecting labour were published during 1960:—

No. 3 of 1960—The Workmen's Compensation (Forms) Regulations 1959;

No. 5 of 1960—The Wages Regulation (Building Industry) Order 1960;

No. 6 of 1960—The Labour Recruitment (Revocation) Regulations 1960;

No. 12 of 1960—Merchant Shipping—Certificates to Seamen;

No. 13 of 1960—The Merchant Shipping (Lifeboatmen) Rules 1960;

No. 29 of 1960—Establishment of Wages Board (Baking Industries); and

No. 65 of 1960—The Wages Regulation (Workers in the Tea Industry) Order 1960.

The following General Notices affecting labour were published during 1960:—

No. 2 of 1960—Report and Award of Arbitration Tribunal appointed to deal with a trade dispute between the Mauritius Federation of Transport on one hand, and the Bus Drivers and Conductors' Union, the General Transport Workers' Union, and the Union of Road Transport Employees on the other hand;

No. 334 of 1960—Board of Inquiry—To enquire into the circumstances which led to the dismissal of workman Régis Francis of Cassis Limited and to report thereon;

No. 351 of 1960—The Apprenticeship Committee, 1960 for that branch of the automobile repair industry actually engaged in the repair and maintenance of automobile machinery;

No. 376 of 1960—Agreement between the General Port and Harbour Workers' Union on the one side and the Federation of Port and Harbour Employers on the other side to regulate the conditions of work and rates of pay of workmen who are members of the union and are employed by the New Mauritius Dock Co. Ltd., the Albion Dock Co. Ltd., and Messrs. Scott & Co. Ltd.'s, Lighterage Establishment;

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No. 377 of 1960—Agreement between the Federation of Port and Harbour Employers on the one side and the General Port and Harbour Workers' Union on the other side to regulate conditions of work and rates of pay of workers who are members of the union and are employed by Messrs. Taylor and Smith, Desmarais Brothers and D'Hotman & Sons Ltd.;

No. 695 of 1960—Appointment of Labour Commissioner as Licensing Officer under the Recruitment of Workers Ordinance, (Cap. 218);

No.706 of 1960—The Apprenticeship Committee, 1960 for that branch of trade in the engineering industry actually engaged in the manufacturing and repair of machinery;

No. 902 of 1960—Report and Award of the Arbitration Tribunal constituted to deal with a trade dispute between the Sugar Planters' Rehabilitation Fund Committee and the workers of the Sugar Planters' Mechanical Pool represented by the Electrical and Other Workers' Union;

No. 903 of 1960—Agreement between the General Transport Workers' Union and the British American Tobacco Co. (Mauritius) Ltd.; and

No. 1253 of 1960—Half-yearly list of Trade Unions as at 30th June, 1960.

The following Bill was published in 1960:—

The Employment and Labour (Amendment) Bill 1960.

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Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

Revenue and Expenditure

The following tables give a comparison under the main heads of revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the years ended 30th June, 1939, 1959 and 1960.

Current Revenue

Main Head	Year ended 30th June		
	1939	*1959*	*1960*
	Rs	*Rs*	*Rs*
I. Direct Taxes	1,036,451	49,310,756	42,247,365
II. Indirect Taxes	11,411,317	63,324,799	71,238,207
III. Receipts from Public Utilities ...	1,390,767	7,216,250	7,759,451
IV. Receipts from Public Services ...	1,082,113	4,672,755	5,510,941
V. Rental of Government Property...	229,221	869,333	1,052,691
VI. Interest and Royalties	486,474	3,625,881	3,157,529
Total ...	15,636,343	129,019,774	130,966,184

Capital Revenue

L. Transfer from Recurrent Budget	—	6,500,000	6,500,000
LI. Transfer from Revenue Reserve Fund	—	1,796,145	—
LII. Capital Receipts, Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes	15,858	967,439	753,192
LIII. Capital Receipts, sale of Government Properties	329	24,972	16,476
LIV. Tax Reserve Certificates	—	—	—
LV. Loans or Advances pending Loans	—	—	28,984,856
LVI. Miscellaneous, including Grants...	—	328,246	334,240
LX. Interest on Investments	—	1,119,073	1,068,102
Repayment of Loans and Advances	2,198,308	—	—
Total ...	2,214,495	10,735,875	37,656,866

Current Expenditure

Main Vote	Year ended 30th June		
	1939	*1959*	*1960*
	Rs	Rs	Rs
1—1. Governor	82,659	241,371	236,872
1—2. Judicial	402,390	1,341,690	1,268,073
3. Legislature	12,889	393,345	653,518
4. Office of the Attorney General	99,564	281,551	276,679
5. Audit	79,185	314,277	360,171
6. Public Service Commission ...	—	160,961	138,912
7. Office of the Colonial Secretary	88,893	1,517,280	1,223,624
8. Central Information Office ...	—	105,446	254,621
9. Defence	935,903	1,808,266	2,059,500
Carried forward ...	1,701,483	6,164,187	6,471,970

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Main Vote	Year ended 30th June 1939 Rs	1959 Rs	1960 Rs
Brought forward ...	1,701.483	6,164,187	6,471,970
10. District Administration ...	—	237,701	241,060
11. Ecclesiastical	211,914	373,283	563,296
12. Fire Services	—	928,959	925,057
13. Mauritius Broadcasting Service and Globe Reuter News Service	—	477,628	523,660
14. Police	970,903	7,136,271	7,314,269
15. Printing Office	107,772	723,966	742,224
16. Rodrigues	—	2,134,814	2,081,333
17. Police Service Commission ...	—	—	40,446
2—1. Office of the Ministry of Finance	—	3,066,397	344,490
2. Accountant General	197,112	5,168,474	4,721,432
2a. Miscellaneous	1,107,217	—	—
3. Central Statistical Office ...	—	198,045	216,076
4. Contributions	—	7,048,277	10,500,000
5. Customs and Excise	—	1,901,643	1,949,915
5a. Customs, Harbour, Port and Marine	613,206	—	—
6. Income Tax	—	512,912	498,688
7. Public Debt	2,292,014	6,574,732	6,954,663
8. Public Service Pensions ...	1,695,428	8,038,487	9,824,413
9. Registrar General	113,897	325,012	309,202
3—1. Office of the Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources	—	109,411	105,409
2. Agriculture	542,286	3,673,976	3,785,022
3. Forests	203,331	2,614,724	2,475,850
4—1. Office of the Minister of Works and Internal Communications	—	114,652	111,659
2. Architectural	—	295,229	324,072
3. Posts and Telegraphs ...	322,521	1,873,663	1,842,550
4. Public Works and Surveys Establishment	340,007	4,498,377	3,766,845
5. Public Works Annually Recurrent	1,039,379	6,557,646	7,683,851
6. Railways...	765,444	1,499,325	395,799
7. Road Traffic Licensing Authority	—	172,653	187,275
5—1. Office of the Minister of Industry, Commerce and External Communications ...	—	—	414,002
2. Civil Aviation	—	476,068	505,678
3. Granary	79,421	299,109	283,136
4. Harbour and Quays	—	1,249,037	1,349,414
5. Meteorological	41,543	364,600	377,089
6. Telecommunications	178,248	2,479,064	2,076,988
6—1. Office of the Minister of Education and Cultural Affairs ..	—	74,756	106,199
2. Archives	—	94,172	96,442
3. Education	1,441,412	18,337,382	19,185,747
4. Mauritius Institute	17,115	129,362	145,649
Carried forward ...	13,981,653	95,923,994	99,440,870

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Main Vote	Year ended 30th June 1939 Rs	1957 Rs	1958 Rs
Brought forward ...	13,981,653	95,923,994	99,440,870
7—1. Office of the Minister of Health and Reform Institutions ...	—	85,014	101,309
2. Health	1,477,202	14,566,556	14,313,375
3. Prisons and Industrial School	178,741	1,547,432	1,459,029
4. Social Welfare	—	486,534	491,967
8—1. Office of the Minister of Labour and Social Security	—	113 262	118,353
2. Labour	770,307	513,838	536,494
3 Public Assistance	—	15,569,752	18,189,390
9—1. Office of the Minister of Local Government and Co-operative Development	—	8,689	109,527
2. Co-operative Societies	—	173.872	217,283
3, Local Government	—	3,395,416	3,000,810
10—1. Office of the Minister of Housing, Lands and Town and Country Planning ...	—	8,848	149,021
2. Central Housing Authority ...	—	—	18,631
Office of the Minister of Works and Tourism	—	88,014	—
Ministers without Portfolio ...	—	43,541	—
TOTAL	16,407,903	132,524,762	138,146,059
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE			
20. Public Works Non-Recurrent ...	228,204	12,396,643	17,295,402
21. Other Works	—	2.565,949	3,401,707
22. Other Capital Expenditure ...	—	13,644,292	18,581,169
24. Reserve for New Projects	—	—	—
25. Redemption of Loans ...	—	435	1,137
TOTAL EXPENDITURE ...	228,204	28,607,319	39,279,415

PUBLIC DEBT

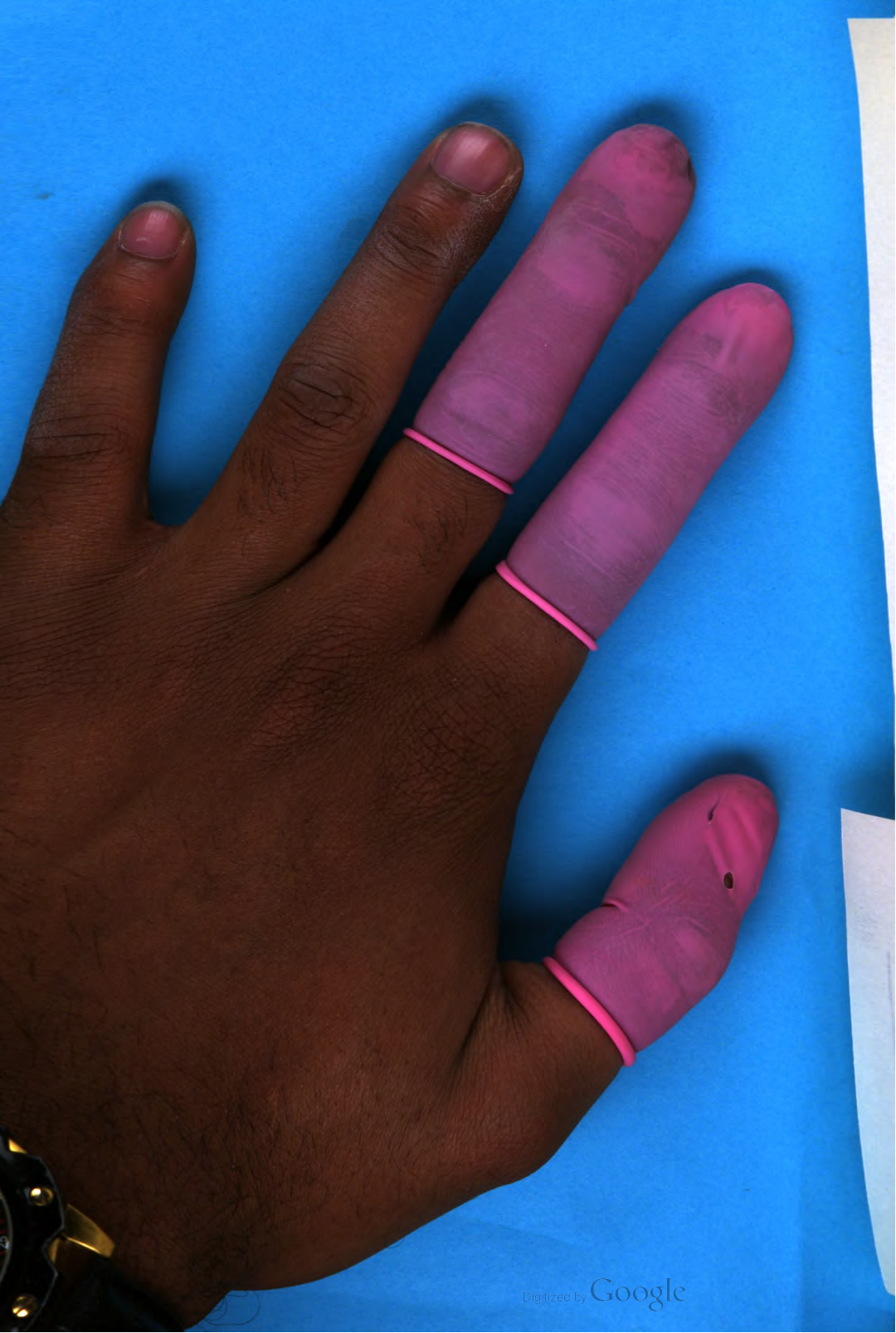
The Public Debt of the Colony on the 30th June, 1960, was Rs 127,334,139. Against this liability there was an accumulated Sinking Fund of Rs 27,333,133.

Local loan issues accounted for Rs 54,186,800 of the Public Debt as detailed below:—

	Rs
Agricultural Loan (No. 1) 1937	1,540,000
Agricultural Loan (No. 2) 1937	1,600,000
Mauritius Loan 1961	3,157,500
Mauritius Development and Welfare Loan 1971–81 ...	3,072,000
Development (General Purposes) Loan 1964–74	14,448,000
Mauritius Tap Loan	29,869,300
Cyclone and Drought Insurance Board—Interest Free Loan	500,000
TOTAL ...	54,186,800

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s at 30th June, 1960

ASSETS	Rs	c	Rs	c

THE MAIN

Customs :—	
Import Duties.	
Export Duties .	
Excise duty on Run	
Tobacco Excise	
Licence Duties .	
Income Tax, (Comp Corporate) .	
Income Tax (Others	
Tax on Sweepstakes	

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Heads of Taxation and their Yields

	1958–59 *Rs*	*1959–60* *Rs*
.. ..	34,233,516	38,568,224
.. ..	76,122	66,247
n	11,479,748	13,704,856
. ...	5,444,937	6,196,765
.. ..	5,495,655	3,097,029
panies and Bodies	28,500,484	21,973,220
s)	18,834,453	18,181,855
s and Lotteries ...	1,443,384	1,433,543

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THE NATIONAL INCOME AND DEPRECIATION FIGURE FOR 1959 WAS CALCULATED BY THE CENTRAL STATISTICAL OFFICE TO BE APPROXIMATELY Rs 681,000,000

Gross National Product Industrial Origin	*Rs (millions)*	*%*
1. Agriculture, forestry, hunting and fishing ...	198	29·1
2. Mining and Quarrying..	1	0·1
3. Manufacture	125	18·4
4. Construction	31	4·5
5. Electricity, water and sanitary services ...	11	1·6
6. Transportation, Storage and Communication ...	89	13·1
7. Wholesale and Retail Trade	65	9·5
8. Banking, Insurance and Real Estate	12	1·8
9. Ownership of dwellings	47	6·9
10. Public Administration and Defence	27	4·0
11. Services	64	9·4
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (AT FACTOR COST)	670	98·4
Plus factor income from rest of the world ...	11	1·6
GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT (AT FACTOR COST)	681	100·0

National Income and Depreciation	*Rs (Millions)*	*%*
1. Compensation of employees	381	55·9
2. Income from farms, professions and other unincorporated enterprises received by households	89	13·1
3. Income from property received by households and private non-profit institutions	109	16·0
4. Saving of corporations	72	10·6
5. Direct taxes on corporations	25	3·6
6. General Government income from property and entrepreneurship ...	12	1·8
7. *Less* Interest on public debt	− 4	− 0·
8. *Less* Interest on consumers' debt	− 3	− 0·4
NATIONAL INCOME AND DEPRECIATION	681	100·0

Gross National Expenditure Composition	*Rs (millions)*	*%*
1. Private consumption expenditure on goods and services	516	75·8
2. General Government consumption expenditure on goods and services	93	13·7
3. Gross domestic fixed capital formation of private enterprises ...	94	13·8
4. Gross domestic fixed capital formation of Government and public enterprises	25	3·6
5. Net exports of goods and services	9	1·3
6. Net factor income payments from rest of the world	11	1·6
7. GROSS NATIONAL EXPENDITURE AT MARKET PRICES	748	109·
8. *Less* Indirect Taxes ...	−71	−10·
9. *Plus* Subsidies	+ 4	+ 0·
GROSS NATIONAL EXPENDITURE AT FACTOR COST	681	100·

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COMPARATIVE FIGURES OF GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT 1953–59

Year	Gross National Product at factor cost Rs million	Increase on 1953 per cent	Resident Population 31st Dec. in each year (thousand)	Gross National product per head Rs
1953 ...	566	—	525	1,078
1954 ...	573	1.2	539	1,063
1955 ...	591	4.4	560	1,055
1956 ...	627	10.8	579	1,083
1957 ...	646	14.1	597	1,082
1958 ...	638	12.7	614	1,039
1959 ...	681	20.3	631	1,079

CUSTOMS TARIFF

The present tariff, which was brought into force by the Customs Tariff Ordinance (No. 26 of 1954), is based on the Standard International Trade Classification. The first schedule to this tariff comprises three main sections: import duties, exemptions, and export duties. Provision is made for the imposition of a preferential tariff on goods produced or manufactured in the United Kingdom and certain other territories, but admission of the goods to preference is dependent on the production of supporting evidence including prescribed certificates of origin and value. In the absence of this information, the general tariff rate is charged.

Export duties are levied on sugar and molasses, and in addition there are small duties imposed on goods exported from bond, goods in transit and goods reshipped after being landed from distressed vessels.

PACKAGE TAX

A package tax is levied under the Package Tax Ordinance (No. 32 of 1951) on all goods shown in the first schedule thereof, imported and landed at any port in the Colony. This tax is levied at variable low rates.

Exemptions are provided for in the second schedule to the Ordinance.

EXCISE DUTIES

Excise duties are leviable on Colonial spirits (rum), country liquor (Mauritius Fruit Wine), tobacco, matches, spirits used in the manufacture of denatured spirits (except for power purposes), vinegar, tinctures and drugs and perfumed spirits. The consumption of rum during the year showed a substantial decrease over the previous year due to an increase of excise duty together with a fall

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in the purchasing power available as a result of a failure of the sugar crop. The revenue collected in respect of country liquor continued to show a fair increase over the figure for the previous year.

Stamp Duties

Stamp duties are of three kinds:

Schedule " A " to the stamps Ordinance (Cap. 160, as subsequently amended), specifies the instruments or writings which are subject to a duty in proportion to the size of paper used. The tariff from 30 cents to Rs 1.80.

Schedule " B " specifies the instruments or writings which are subject to a fixed stamp duty. The amounts vary from 10 cents to Rs 18.

Schedule " C " specifies the instruments or writings which are subject to an *ad valorem* duty. These include Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes, Policies of Insurance, Debentures. The duties are mainly on a sliding scale.

The Stamp Duties collected in respect of impressed paper during the financial year 1959–60 amounted to Rs 688,926.

Income Tax

Income Tax is imposed by the provisions of the Income Tax Ordinance, 1950, as subsequently amended.

Various deductions, including capital allowances, are provided by the Ordinance and in the case of individuals, the chargeable income is arrived at after deducting personal reliefs and allowances.

The following schedule shows the rates of tax payable by individuals:

	Chargeable Income Rs		*Rate of Tax* %
For every rupee of the first	5,000	...	10
For every rupee of the next	5,000	...	15
do. do.	5,000	...	20
do. do.	5,000	...	30
do. do.	5,000	...	40
do. do.	10,000	...	50
do. do.	15,000	...	60
Remainder of the chargeable income		...	70

The rate of tax applicable to companies is 40 per cent of the amount of chargeable income.

Collections in the year 1959–60 amounted to Rs 40,155,075 as compared with Rs 47,334,937 in 1958–59. The drop in income tax receipts is due to increased allowances for investment and the effects of the cyclones on revenue receipts.

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Death Duty

Duty is payable on the value of the property accruing to each beneficiary at a rate dependent upon the degree of relationship to the deceased and the net value of such property, without aggregation of the whole estate.

The duty collected during 1960 amounted to Rs 838,552.16 compared with Rs 927,751.05 in 1959.

Local Authorities Finances

The undermentioned table gives comparative figures of revenue and expenditure of the four urban local authorities for the last financial year:—

Local Authority	*Financial Year*	*Revenue Rs*	*Expenditure Rs*
Municipality of Port Louis (excluding Housing Scheme)	1960	4,170,959 39	3,897,797 95
Town Council of Beau Bassin—Rose Hill (excluding Housing Scheme) ...	1959–60	1,119,544	1,410,039
Town Council of Quatre Bornes (excluding Housing Scheme) ...	1959–60	634,295	586,299
Town Council of Curepipe (excluding Housing Scheme)	1959–60	1,271,785	1,438,738

District and Village Councils

The three District Councils established under Ordinance No. 76 of 1951 and the District Administration for Plaines Wilhems—Black River which started functioning in September, 1955, receive subsidies and grants from the Government which are partly allocated to the Village Councils, according to estimates approved by the District Councils and the District Administration. In addition to any taxation which may be imposed by the Village Councils, the District Councils have the right to levy taxes which do not apply to any particular village, such as advertisement and placard tax and entertainment tax. The total estimates of expenditure for the existing 111 Village Councils amounted to approximately Rs 776,623 and the total revenue including subsidies for scavenging and roads, amounted to Rs 889,914. Revenue from entertainment tax totalled Rs 93,522.

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Chapter 4: Currency and Banking

Currency

The local unit of currency is the Mauritius Rupee, which is sub-divided into 100 cents. The rupee is equivalent to 1s. 6d. sterling.

The notes in circulation are of denominations of Rs 25, Rs 10 and Rs 5. There is in addition a Rs 1,000 note which is legal tender only between the local banks and the Government.

The coins in circulation are the following:

Cupro-Nickel: One Rupee, Half-Rupee, Quarter-Rupee and Ten Cents.

Bronze: 5 Cents, 2 Cents and 1 Cent.

The value of currency in circulation on the 30th June for the last three financial years is given hereunder:—

	1958 *Rs*	*1959* *Rs*	*1960* *Rs*
Notes	57,530,000	61,235,000	64,605,000
Coins	3,848,000	4,243,000	4,038,000
TOTAL ...	61,378,000	65,478,000	68,643,000

Local Banks

Three trading banks operate in Mauritius: The Mauritius Commercial Bank Ltd., The Mercantile Bank Ltd. and Barclays Bank D.C.O.

Savings bank facilities are provided by the Post Office Savings Bank, The Mauritius Agricultural Bank, The Mauritius Commercial Bank Ltd., Barclays Bank D.C.O. and The Mercantile Bank Ltd.

Long-term loans for agricultural and housing purposes are provided by the Mauritius Agricultural Bank, while Barclays Overseas Development Corporation Limited undertakes medium-term finance on a commercial basis. There is, however, a lack of financial institutions specialising in long-term loans to individual borrowers for such purposes as housing, although loans against mortgages are obtainable from private sources. The Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank Ltd. provides finance on a seasonal basis for the cultivation requirements of the co-operative credit movement. The Government also provides assistance to local industry in the form of medium-term loans.

The Mauritius Commercial Bank was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1838 with a capital of Rs 2,000,000, which was increased to Rs 3,000,000 in 1948, to Rs 4,000,000 in 1958 and to

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Rs 5,000,000 in 1960. The Bank was registered as a limited liability company in August, 1955. The Bank's head office is in Port Louis with branches at Curepipe, Rose Hill, Mahebourg, Quatre Bornes, Centre de Flacq and Triolet. Its London Agents are Lloyds Bank Limited. It has correspondents all over the world and is able to offer a complete banking service. The reserves at the 31st December, 1960, stood at Rs 6,205,721.

The Mercantile Bank Limited, formerly the Mercantile Bank of India Limited, and now a Member of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Group, took over the business of the Bank of Mauritius Limited on the 31st May, 1916. The paid-up Capital of the Bank is £2,940,000. Reserve funds and unappropriated profits amount to £2,431,879. Through its Head Office in London and its branches throughout India, Pakistan, Ceylon, Burma, Thailand, Malaya and the Far East and correspondents throughout the rest of the World, the Mercantile Bank Limited is able to offer comprehensive banking facilities to the people of Mauritius.

Barclays Bank D.C.O. has its Head Office in London and over 1,200 branches in Africa, the Mediterranean area, the Carribean area, England, New York and Hamburg, with correspondents in all other important centres. The paid-up capital of the Bank was £12,932,250 as at 30th September, 1960, and the Reserve Fund was £11,250,000. The Bank, which is affiliated with Barclays Bank Limited, was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1836 as the Colonial Bank and re-incorporated by Act of Parliament in 1925; the name was then changed to Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), which amalgamated with the Anglo-Egyptian Bank Limited and the National Bank of South Africa Limited. The Port Louis, Mauritius, branch was established by the last-named in December, 1919, and was taken over by Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) following the amalgamation. The name of the Bank was changed to Barclays Bank D.C.O. in 1954. There are offices of the Bank at Sir William Newton Street, Port Louis, Dumat Street, Port Louis, Curepipe, Rose Hill, Vacoas, Centre de Flacq, Rivière des Anguilles and Rose Belle. The Bank acts as Agent for Barclays Overseas Development Corporation Limited, which was formed to assist in the economic development of territories in which the Bank operates and which had a paid-up capital of £6,000,000 on the 30th September, 1960.

Post Office Savings Bank

The Post Office Savings Bank is operated by the Posts and Telegraphs Department. At the 30th June, 1960, the Bank had

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77,305 active accounts and 2,083 dormant account with a balance due to depositors of Rs 32,182,923. Savings Bank business is transacted at 31 Post Offices. During 1960 transactions amounted in number and value to 58,735 deposits, totalling Rs 16,566,210 and 55,402 withdrawals, totalling Rs 15,925,230. Accounts are regarded as dormant if no transaction takes place for a period of twenty years.

The Mauritius Agricultural Bank

The Mauritius Agricultural Bank was established by Ordinance No. 1 of 1936 as a " body corporate having perpetual succession and a common seal . . . for the purpose of making long-term loans for agricultural needs ". It started its activities in 1937 with a capital of Rs 10,000,000 which was raised by loans, locally and overseas, by Government. Of this amount Rs 476,000 has been reimbursed by the Bank which had also contributed at the 31st December, 1960, Rs 1,628,800 to a sinking fund.

The first change in the constitution of the Bank occurred in 1940 when the minimum for loans (which had been Rs 5,000) was abolished and the Bank was authorised to draw Bills on the Treasury to finance loans for amounts under Rs 5,000.

The Mauritius Economic Commission (1948) recommended that the Bank's capital be increased and the scope of its activities extended to meet the needs of industrial as well as agricultural enterprises. Legislation was passed to this effect and to authorise the Bank to make long-term loans for housing (Ordinance No. 68 of 1950).

In 1949 the Bank was authorised to raise Rs 3,000,000 from the public by the sale of short-term bills. By Ordinance No. 68 of 1950 it was further empowered:

(a) to raise funds from the public by the issue of long-term debentures, by the issue of subscription debentures payable monthly and quarterly, and by accepting fixed deposits for 12–36 months and saving deposits;

(b) to arrange long-term loans and bank overdrafts.

One of the objects of authorising the Bank to raise funds from the public was to encourage saving in the Colony and it was hoped that the wide choice of investments would prove attractive. At the 31st December, 1960, there were:—

2,725 Savings Accounts for Rs 2,153,709
277 Fixed Deposit Accounts for Rs 1,700,015
193 Accounts for Subscription Debentures for Rs 183,615

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At the 31st December, 1960, the Bank had paid out Rs 61,580,076 in loans as follows:—

	Rs
For agriculture	45,610,674
For housing	14,854,647
For industry	1,114,755
TOTAL ...	61,580,076

The Bank has been entrusted with the management of the loans granted under the Hurricane Loan Ordinance (1945), the Rehabilitation of Factories and Rolling Stock Ordinance (1948), and the Aloe Fibre Industry (Development) Ordinance (1952). The total amount due by borrowers at the 31st December, 1960, was Rs 44,642,803 of which Rs 35,981,678 consisted of Agricultural Bank loans proper (including Rs 9,657,170 for housing loans), Rs 6,300,287 due by borrowers under the Hurricane Loan Ordinance, Rs 2,271,563 due by borrowers under the Rehabilitation of Factories and Rolling Stock Ordinance, and Rs 89,275 due by borrowers under the Aloe Fibre Industry (Development) Ordinance. The demand for loans since 1950 has been far in excess of the resources of the Bank.

The following is a summary of the Bank's balance sheet as at the 31st December, 1960.

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
	Rs		*Rs*
Mauritius Government ...	10,474,000	Loans	35,981,678
Debentures and Sub-Debentures	17,183,615	Cash	1,028,462
Deposits	6,853,724	Investments	1,560,395
Short-term Bills	2,309,440	Other Assets	2,134,283
Internal A/cs and other liabilities	393,115	Sinking Fund Contributions	1,628,800
Sinking Fund	1,628,800		
Reserve and Profit and Loss A/c	3,490,924		
	42,333,618		42,333,618
Funds administered on behalf of the Colonial Government	8,661,125	Hurricane Loan 1945 ...	6,300,287
		Rehabilitation Loans ...	2,271,563
		Aloe Fibre Industry Loans	89,275
TOTAL ...	8,661,125		8,661,125

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BANKING STATISTICS

NUMBER OF REPORTING BANKS: 3

Figures as at 31st December, 1960

All figures are in rupees (000 omitted)

LIABILITIES	Rs	ASSETS	Rs
1. Notes in circulation ...	—	1. Cash	7,467
		2. Balances due by other banks in the Colony ...	2,316
		3. Balances due from banks abroad	26,419
2. Deposits :—		4. Loans and advances:—	
(1) Demand	113,325	(1) Primary production (including processing of primary products) ...	44,944
(2) Time	3,042		
(3) Savings	11,573	(2) Other industries (including Commerce, Transport and Distribution)	45,037
3. Balances due to :—			
(1) Other banks in the Colony	2,709	(3) Other advances ...	13,609
(2) Banks abroad ...	10,164	5. Investments:—	
		(a) Local	5,536
4. Other Liabilities, etc. ...	53,365	*(b)* Other	2,000
		6. Other Assets :—	
		(i) bills discounted ...	5,194
		(ii) bills receivable ...	8,604
		(iii) other	33,052
TOTAL LIABILITIES ...	194,178	TOTAL ASSETS ...	194,178

BANKS EXCHANGE RATES

The buying and selling rates for telegraphic transfers were at the end of 1960, roughly as under:—

	Buying	*Selling*
BRITISH STERLING		
Under £ 5,000 ...	Rs 13.25 per £1	... Rs 13.43 per £1
£5,000 and over ...	Rs 13.26⅜ ,,	... Rs 13.40 ,,
CANADIAN DOLLARS ...	Rs 4.95 per $1 ...	... Rs 5.05 per $1
U.S.A. DOLLARS	Rs 4.72½ per $1	... Rs 4.82 per $1
SOUTH AFRICAN POUNDS		
Under £ 5,000 ...	Rs 13.20 per £1	... Rs 13.45 per £1
£5,000 and over ...	Rs 13.20 ,,	... Rs 13.42 ,,
AUSTRALIAN POUNDS ...	Rs 10.50 per £1	... Rs 10.85 per £1
FRENCH FRANCS		
France	Rs 0.94 per NF 1	... Rs 0.99 per NF 1
C.F.A.	Rs 1.88 per 100 francs	Rs 1.98 per 100 francs
OTHER CURRENCIES		
India and Pakistan ...	At par	... 1 % premium
East Africa	Rs 66.50 per 100 shs	... Rs 67.15 per 100 shs.

The control of foreign exchange was maintained in 1960 under the Mauritius Exchange Control Ordinance, 1951, which was enacted on the lines of the United Kingdom Exchange Control Act, 1947, and thus ensures similarity of practice in exchange control matters in the Scheduled Territories.

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Chapter 5 : Commerce

The commerce of the Colony depends almost entirely on the sugar crop which in 1960 yielded only 235,578* metric tons as compared with 580,372 metric tons in 1959 and 525,842 metric tons in 1958. The big decrease in sugar production was due to the damages caused to the sugar plantations by the two violent cyclones which hit the island early during the year. High degree alcohol, a by-product of sugar is produced mainly for local consumption and the quantity exported in 1960 was negligible. The exportation of molasses, another by-product of sugar was 45,180 metric tons, against 59,985 metric tons in 1959 and 59,158 metric tons in 1958. Exports of tea reached 211 metric tons as compared with 464 metric tons in 1959. A small part of the Colony's demand for foodstuffs is met by local production, namely meat, sugar, salt, tea, fruits and vegetables, fish (fresh and dried) and coconut oil. Local industries produce cigarettes, matches, aloe-fibre bags for sugar, rum and country liquor. The bulk of the needs of the Colony are met by importation from other countries.

Imports of rice, the staple food of the Colony, reached 60,568 metric tons as compared with 57,130 metric tons in 1959 and 70,481 metric tons in 1958. Wheaten flour was imported mainly from Australia, beef on the hoof from Madagascar and considerable quantities of foodstuffs from the United Kingdom and the Union of South Africa.

The United Kingdom continues to be the principal source of supply for manufactured goods such as textiles, machinery, motor vehicles, hardware and electrical goods. Large quantities of cotton piece goods are received from India and large supplies of general merchandise from Hong Kong. Manufactured fertilizers are imported mainly from the United Kingdom, Western Germany and France.

* Provisional

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DIRECTION OF EXPORT TRADE

Preferential Tariff Countries	*1958* Rs	*1959* Rs	*1960* Rs
United Kingdom	234,056,798	229,645,262	159,545,799
Australia	130,231	100,145	75,750
British East Africa	499,245	625,557	272,474
Canada	26,601,648	37,525,121	9,988,397
Ceylon	2,056	13,450	—
Hong Kong	515,676	3,027,113	50,679
India	12,023	33,480	180,544
Malaya	2,071,104	376,046	381,700
New Zealand	253,612	88,961	36,932
Seychelles	474,043	316,917	432,811
Singapore	1,085,161	1,085,161	319,842
Southern Rhodesia	2,050	17,860	25,405
Union of South Africa	220,072	319,159	522,408
Other Preferential Tariff Countries	34,100	2,274,599	962,857
TOTAL ...	265,957,819	275,449,725	172,795,588
General Tariff Countries			
Belgium	3,149	12,180	—
France	199,906	109,151	98,718
Germany Federal Republic ...	143,056	79,242	336,962
Holland	1,348,627	1,571,003	363,557
Iran	3,414,280	—	—
Italy	304,578	2,050	18,881
Japan	365,874	755,927	1,516,230
Lebanon	3,833,384	2,884,321	—
Madagascar	609,426	520,271	547,743
Morocco	4,072,629	50	13,982
Portuguese East Africa	187,600	8,900	14,950
Reunion	498,370	707,908	1,427,325
United States of America ...	585,218	106,208	8,025
Other General Tariff Countries ..	155,306	3,255	33,594
TOTAL ...	15,721,412	6,760,466	4,982,067
Sugar Quota Certificates ...	7,221,426	7,424,404	7,208,287
GRAND TOTAL OF EXPORTS ...	288,900,657	289,634,595	184,985,942

DIRECTION OF IMPORT TRADE

Preferential Tariff Countries	*1957* Rs	*1958* Rs	*1959* Rs
United Kingdom	108,138,000	105,579,527	115,503,856
Aden	44,074	26,642	84,236
Australia and New Zealand ...	21,120,405	19,546,376	23,032,535
Bahrein	480,498	183,190	735,746
British East Africa	3,584,917	6,125,062	7,287,983
British West Indies	250,574	263,727	166,450
Burma	30,402,622	28,562,541	26,803,635
Canada	807,030	450,577	383,995
Ceylon	593,612	110,329	191,981
Carried over	165,421,732	160,847,971	174,190,417

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DIRECTION OF IMPORT TRADE—*continued*

	1957 Rs	1958 Rs	1959 Rs
Brought forward ...	165,421,732	160,847,971	174,190,417
Cyprus	40,581	65,105	33,952
Eire	536,892	879,136	1,075,912
Hong Kong	5,906,947	7,143,800	9,351,287
India	12,309,672	12,709,112	13,448,230
Malaya	2,119,539	2,776,818	2,814.040
New Zealand	589,170	603,226	473,574
Pakistan	358,792	475,014	1,081,865
Singapore	1,575,750	1,442,832	2,527,957
Southern Rhodesia	649,115	312,018	594,339
Seychelles	585,209	573,613	163,803
Union of South Africa ...	17,721,946	19,963,561	21,652,598
Other Preferential Tariff Countries	174,712	166,709	139,695
TOTAL	207,990,057	207,959,915	227,547,669
General Tariff Countries			
Belgium	4,039,739	3,974,561	7,836,669
Czechoslovakia	571,202	466,044	670,275
Denmark	329,999	550,443	631,881
Ethiopia	1,053,913	1,489,423	529,447
France	11,339,848	9,387,420	12,975,178
German Federal Republic ...	12,209,963	11,903,304	12,957,475
Germany (Eastern)	358,593	452,770	387,113
Holland	4,061,342	3,998,609	6,335,021
Hungary	116,613	83,944	77,131
Iran	7,859,742	10,603,768	9,723,671
Italy (including Sicily) ...	7,685,603	1,113,521	1,436,395
Japan	8,072,103	9,193,744	13,381,892
Luxembourg	411,691	539,269	731,274
Madagascar	2,672,026	2,065,143	2,749,393
Morocco	83,883	241,413	911,471
Netherlands West Indies ...	21,116	192,925	379,533
Norway	295,691	449,905	364,338
Poland	109,097	176,531	122,592
Portugal	850,097	870 543	699,269
Portuguese East Africa	3,044,427	474,787	2,419,816
Russia	20,004	12,359	13,948
Saudi Arabia	1,474,683	30	5,117
Siam	9,154.029	6,243,975	8,799,917
Spain	135.842	135,099	210,112
Sudan	88,038	701,139	438,412
Sweden	1,434,776	1,259,993	2,287,994
Switzerland	1,152,318	1,490,388	1,491,012
United States of America ...	9,900,822	8,486,444	9,501,321
Yougoslavia	37	69	—
Other General Tariff Countries ...	2,302,628	2,007,448	5,157,920
TOTAL ...	90,849.864	78,564,711	103,225,487
BAGGAGE ...	379.232	327 099	493,831
GRAND TOTAL OF IMPORTS ...	299,218,253	286,851,725	331,867,047

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I—IMPORTS

Principal Imports	1957 Total=Rs 299,218,253 Quantity	1957 C.I.F. Value Rs	1959 Total=Rs 286,851,725 Quantity	1959 C.I.F. Value Rs	1959 Total=Rs 331,867,047 Quantity	1959 C.I.F. Value Rs	Main Countries of Supply
Rice	70,481 M. Tons	44,113,853	57,130 M. Tons	32,350,791	60,568 M. Tons	33,042,052	Burma, Siam, Italy and Pakistan.
Wheaten flour	25,396 ,,	11,076,799	17,737 ,,	7,355,320	23,917 ,,	10,026,954	Australia, German Federal Republic, Kenya and France.
Other grain and grain products	9,651 ,,	5,892,916	11,968 ,,	6,807,355	10,866 ,,	6,723,739	Australia, India, Union of South Africa, Ethiopia, Erythrea, Madagascar and Burma.
Cattle and meat	—	4,473,161	—	5,112,808	—	6,275,239	Madagascar (cattle), Australia and Kenya (Meat).
Edible oils and fats	5,667 ,,	9,247,412	5,794 ,,	8,910,548	8,277 ,,	12,182,668	United Kingdom, Uganda, Union of South Africa, Singapore, Israel and France.
Beverages	—	4,011,623	—	4,807,429	—	6,166,572	United Kingdom, France, Union of South Africa, Holland and Singapore.
Coal	18,870 ,,		13,815 ,,	881,053	2,423 ,,	192,274	Union of South Africa.
Petroleum products	—	1,372,586 11,716,292	—	12,518,636	—	12,917,559	Iran, Saudi Arabia, Bahrein, Union of South Africa, U. S. America, United Kingdom.
Wood and wood manufactures	—	5,262,438	—	5,938,086	—	5,706,225	Malaya, Singapore, Burma, Siam, Australia and Czechoslovakia.
Gunny bags	2,450,408 No.	2,507,851	930,788 No.	1,025,714	817,846 No.	1,291,115	India and Pakistan.
Cotton piece goods	8,474,683 Sq. ms.,	10,698,110	9,557,885 sq. ms.	10,993,959	9,115,646 sq. ms.	12,068,918	United Kingdom, India, Japan and Hong Kong.
Silk piece goods	3,440,058 ,,	4,814,732	3,368,035 ,,	4,195,744	2,173,094 ,,	3,479,296	United Kingdom, Japan and India.
Woollen piece goods	204,718 ,,	2,311,081	162,100 ,,	1,836,268	206,586 ,,	2,334,752	United Kingdom.
Vehicles :—							
(a) (i) Motor cars	902 No.	6,404,441	784 No.	5,454,783	1,186 No.	7,683,676	United Kingdom, German Federal Republic, Australia and France.
(ii) Other	—	7,529,620	—	8,619,337	—	8,901,815	United Kingdom and Germany Federal Republic.
(b) Railway and tramway locomotives and accessories	—	674,754	—	456,497	—	247,420	United Kingdom and U.S. America.
(c) Ships, aircraft and accessories	—	431,902	—	244,395	—	407,278	United Kingdom and U.S. America.
Cement	51,455 M. Tons	6,704,772	62,056 M. Tons	7,058,053	94,621 M. Tons	9,887,221	United Kingdom, Kenya, Union of South Africa, Belgium and Japan.
Machinery other than electric	4,181 ,,	26,073,120	3,420 ,,	21,140,882	3,799 ,,	21,598,429	United Kingdom, United States of America and France.
Electrical goods	—	17,022,440	—	20,216,127	—	19,608,477	United Kingdom, France German Federal Republic, and Hollanc.
Iron and steel goods	15,304 ,,	17,667,484	14,786 ,,	15,292,698	32,282 ,,	33,389,342	United Kingdom, Belgium, German, Federal Republic France, Japan, Australia, and Unton of Sonth Africa.
Manures and Fertilizers	46,589 ,,	13,127,612	58,602 ,,	15,175,270	61,057 ,,	14,176,216	United Kingdom Belgium, German Federal Republic France, Holland, Eastern Germany, Seychelles and Madagascar.
Paper and paper manufactures	1,552 ,,	3,278,691	2,086 ,,	4,187,404	2,893 ,,	4,493,479	United Kingdom, Sweeden Germany Federal Republic, Czechoslovakia and Singapore.

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II.—Exports

	1958	1959	1960
	Rs	Rs	Rs
(a) Domestic Exports	278,082,387	278,177,914	172,296,575
(b) Sugar Quota Certificates ...	7,221,426	7,424,404	7,208,287
(c) Re-Exports	3,596,844	4,032,277	5,481,080
TOTAL ...	288,900,657	289,634,595	184,985,942

Principal Exports	1958 Quantity	1958 F.O.B. Value	1959 Quantity	1959 F.O.B. Value	1960 Quantity	1960 F.O.B. Value	Main Countries of Destination
		Rs		Rs		Rs	
Sugar ...	522,752 M.Tons	269,894,312†	512,031 M.Tons	269,506,560†	299,371 M.Tons	165,778,758	United Kingdom, Canada, Iran, Lebanon, Morocco, Malaya, Singapore, Hong Kong, Seychelles and Nyasaland.
Molasses ...	59,158 ,,	4,875,066	59,985 ,,	4,835,489	45,180 ,,	3,422,233	United Kingdom, Holland, New Zealand, and United States.
Rum ...	131 Hectols	12,881	‡300 Hectols	26,307	240 Hectols	21,661	Hong Kong and Seychelles.
Aloe Fibre ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tea ...	352 M.Tons	2,347,021	464 M.Tons	2,691,883	211 M.Tons	1,344,312	United Kingdom, Kenya, U. S. America, Holland, New Zealand, and Union of South Africa.

†Excluding Value of Sugar Quota Certificates.
‡Revised figures.

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Chapter 6 : Production

Land Utilization and Water Conservation

Mauritius covers an area of 460,800 acres of which about 220,000 acres are under cultivation of a very efficient type as compared with many colonial territories. Beyond the crops from this land the Island produces little else with which to meet the requirements of a population numbering about 630,000 at a density of about 875 per square mile. The cultivated area consists mainly of sugarcane (200,000 acres); it does not include either economic forestry, or other tree plantations (19,000 acres). Forests and forest plantations, woodlands, mountain, river and natural reserves and scrub total about 200,000 acres. Built up areas, roads, water bodies and open spaces cover 22,000 acres.

The central and elevated part of the Island, above the 100" isohyet, is mostly covered with forest and scrub land to protect and regulate the water resources. In this area, cultivation, except for tea, is not very conspicuous. No laws specially protecting this natural watershed exist except those giving protection to Mountain and River Reserves.

The main upland water catchment area is mostly Crown property and utilized for the production of forest produce, fuel and fodder, with a limited acreage under tea and other crops. Water resources are mainly dependent on the incidence of nearby cyclonic disturbances bringing rain, most of which falls in the hot season or in the heavy downpours accompanying cyclonic disturbances. Several reservoirs have been constructed in order to hold this water for utilization, both for domestic and irrigation purposes and for the production of electrical energy and further progress in this direction continues.

Land Ownership

In the early days of French colonization, land was conceded to settlers almost all over the Island. Later, land ownership was governed by the French Civil Code or " Code Napoléon ", which is still in force. This provides for equal division of property among the heirs often resulting ultimately, in the case of land, in excessive fragmentation. The demand for land is accentuated by the rapid growth of population, leading to the inflation of land values. Grouping of estates into companies has checked fragmentation for the bulk of the land, although for a time speculation led to a system of parcelling known as " morcellement " when large tracts of land were purchased and sold again in numerous small lots.

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Land Tenure

The Island was uninhabited when first colonized. Its original permanent settlers were the French who, through the grant of concessions, became the original freehold owners of all the land except Crown Lands. At present, apart from Crown Lands, including Crown forests and the " Pas Géométriques " which total 83,000 acres, the land is owned in large or small lots by all sections of the community. Roughly 70 percent is owned by companies and private estates, the remainder being the property of the Indo-Mauritian section of the population. In addition to freehold tenure, land is also held lease-hold and on share-cropping agreements.

Leasehold tenure is practised to a limited extent on privately-owned lands and on Crown Lands. In the case of Crown Lands, leasing is generally by auction to the highest bidder, but it may also be by contract, leases varying from 3 to 30 years with security of tenure to satisfactory tenants. Various types of share-cropping in the form of " métayage " exist.

Renting System

Rentals are either cash, crop-sharing or " Taungya ". Cash rentals are payable monthly, quarterly or annually; in crop-sharing the proportion of the crop handed over as rental varies according to circumstances and the nature of the crop; under the " Taungya " system, which is adopted in tree plantations, especially in Crown forest areas, the tenant is permitted to grow vegetables or annual crops between the young trees provided he keeps the trees clear of weeds and fills up the gaps. This is a temporary system, as cultivation is discontinued as soon as the trees are developed.

Land and Water Development Programmes

These include provision for:

(a) increased reservoir construction both for domestic and irrigation purposes, the latter leading to increased cultivation of land;

(b) increased generation of electrical power.

Land Settlement

At present there exist six Settlements of major importance which cover an area of approximately 1,300 acres where some 550 tenants have been settled. The standard of crop husbandry is quite satisfactory and the tenants have made a considerable effort in rehabilitating their crops after the cyclones which struck the island at the beginning of 1960.

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The Settlement at Bée Manique has not been fully developed owing to the difficult conditions obtaining in the region; the Plaisance Settlement on the other hand is making satisfactory progress.

Mechanical clearing of a steep portion of Crown Land Petit Sable is in progress and will be ready for distribution next year.

AGRICULTURE

Department of Agriculture

At the 31st December, 1960 the permanent and pensionable staff of the Department numbered 256 as follows:—

Division	*In post*	*Vacancies*
Administrative Division	32	1
Agricultural Division	48	5
Tea Division	8	—
Plant Pathology Division	5	—
Entomological Division	4	1
Agricultural Chemistry Division...	6	—
Engineering Division	8	—
Central Board Division	9	2
Agricultural College Division	12	1
Rodrigues Division (attached to Agricultural Division)	19	—
Fisheries Division	60	3
Veterinary Division	31	1
TOTAL	242	14

The general policy of the Department of Agriculture is to promote the most efficient use of available lands suitable for cultivation and to foster the most efficient production of livestock and livestock products. To this end, the primary objective is the training of technical staff for the Department of Agriculture, the Mauritius Sugar Industry Research Institute, the Sugar Industry and the other agricultural interests of the Island. Training is done in the first instance at the College of Agriculture which provides a three year course. For the purposes of the Department of Agriculture a programme of study leave enables local officers to be trained overseas to meet requirements for specialist and senior professional staff.

The second objective is the provision of an Agricultural Extension Service which makes readily available to the farmer assistance and advice and translates into general agricultural practice the information obtained from the experimental stations.

Associated with both the foregoing objectives is the development of experimental stations in each of the major climatic zones of the Colony for the purpose of investigation under competent supervision of crops, stocks and methods suited to the particular areas.

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The sugar industry is the main source of wealth and employment in the Colony and Government policy is to encourage development of that industry to the limits imposed by overseas markets. The industry has its own Research Institute which covers research in both field and factory aspects of sugarcane.

The Department of Agriculture, in collaboration with the Sugar Research Institute, undertakes extension work in regard to small planters, having as one of its principal aims the raising of small planters' yields to a figure more comparable with that of the estates. The Department also maintains a plant inspection service to prevent introduction of new pests and diseases, controls the Cane Quarantine Greenhouse and administers the Central Cane Arbitration Board.

The development of secondary industries has long been an important item of the Department's policy and everything is done to encourage the development of the tea, tobacco and fibre industries, and small planters are encouraged to produce cash vegetable and food crops. Encouragement of local production of meat and milk within the limits imposed by the restricted availability of land for fodder and pasture is an item of policy which is implemented in several ways, the chief of which are the improvement of the milk breed of cattle characteristic of Mauritius and the maintenance of an island-wide artificial insemination service.

Fisheries policy comprises conservation of the lagoon fisheries, development of off shore fishing and investigation of pond culture of fresh water fish.

The Board of Agriculture, Fisheries and Natural Resources studies all matters of policy and makes recommendations to the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Sugar

Mauritius is naturally best adapted for the production of sugar which is the staple of the Island. The whole of the production, with the exception of some 20,000 tons consumed locally, is exported, mainly to the United Kingdom but Canada is also an important buyer of Mauritian sugar.

Production in the three preceding years was as follows:—

	Metric tons
1957	562,003
1958	525,648
1959	580,372
Annual average ...	556,008

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In 1960 the production of Sugar amounted to 235,578 metric tons obtained from an harvested area of about 178,000 acres. The average yield of cane per acre over the whole island was about 12.27 metric tons. Sugar extraction was 9.84 per cent compared with 12.23 per cent in 1959. The production of sugar per acre was approximately 1.21 metric tons, slightly less than the figure of 1.23 metric tons per acre obtained in 1945, whilst last year it was 3.04 metric tons per acre. These unsatisfactory results are the outcome of the two cyclones which struck the island at the beginning of the year and were it not for the Cyclone and Drought Insurance Fund which was instituted in 1946 to make good for the losses incurred by the Sugar Industry following such emergencies, the industry would have been in great financial difficulties.

Although an important proportion of cane lands is under peasant ownership, mostly Indo-Mauritian, the bulk of the sugar is produced on the plantation scale. The larger plantations with factories produced about 59% of the total crop. The smaller peasant owners, some 15,000 of whom cultivate altogether about 19% of the land under cane, often work their land with the assistance of their families, employing extraneous labour at peak times such as at planting and when harvesting. Many of these small planters have grouped themselves into co-operative societies for the purpose of consigning their canes to factories.

The cane was milled in 1960 in 23 factories, most of which are company-owned.

The whole of the sugar produced is marketed by the Mauritius Sugar Syndicate. Since the War the price of Commonwealth sugar has been fixed year by year under the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement. The negotiated price quota exportable under the terms of the Agreement has again been increased and amounted to 353,425 long tons for the year 1960. Of these 74,765 long tons were exported during the first half of 1960 from the remainder of the 1959 sugar, leaving a balance of 278,600 long tons. Unfortunately the exportable sugar from the 1960 crop fell short of this balance by some 50,000 long tons.

The Commonwealth Agreement has been further extended and will now run up to the end of 1968.

Cane is purchased by factories on the basis of two thirds of the sugar and by-products going to the planters under contracts which are subject to the control of the Central Board. The Board functions as a part of the organisation of the Department of Agriculture.

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Exports of molasses to the United Kingdom, Holland and two other countries amounted to 45,180 metric tons, whilst the production of alcohol in 1960 amounted to about 1,900,000 litres (100°G.L.) against 2,162,000 in 1959. The greater part of the production was used locally as rum, denatured spirits and power alcohol. About 24,000 litres were exported to Hong Kong and Seychelles.

Industrial Crops

Three other crops are grown industrially, but on a small scale compared with sugarcane. These are tea, tobacco, and aloe fibre.

Tea

Tea, in common with all crops, suffered from the effects of cyclones 'Alix' and 'Carol' in January and February, 1960. Although very few mature tea bushes were destroyed, the crop was considerably reduced, the total production for the year being 1,732,875 pounds of black tea in 1960 as compared with 1,997,103 pounds in 1959. Exports were similarly reduced to 464,530 pounds, the bulk of which was exported to the United Kingdom and sold on the London Auctions. World price levels were generally a little above the previous year but the average price realised for the 4,345 chests of Mauritius tea sold on the London Auctions was 3s.10.80d. per pound, a drop of ½d. per pound on the previous year's average selling price.

Very little new clearing under the Government-sponsored scheme for the expansion of the tea industry was undertaken owing to the need to repair the damage caused by the cyclones to the immature plantations. This damage is estimated as a 30 per cent loss of plants in areas under three years old. Substantial aid has been given to planters by Government to assist them in the rehabilitation of their plantations.

The new Govenment owned tea factory—Chartreuse tea factory—and one other privately owned tea factory suffered severe damage from the cyclones. The former was put out of production for the whole year. The other four tea factories all suffered some degree of damage and loss of stocks of tea through flooding.

Tobacco

Tobacco was grown on 971 acres in 1960, a decrease of 102 acres as compared with 1959. Of this area, 700 acres were under Virginian varieties and the remainder under Amarello. The total production was 553,273 kgs.

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Imports of cigarettes have decreased but imports of leaf tobacco have increased owing to the manufactures' decision to manufacture from 100 per cent imported leaf two brands of cigarettes which were previously imported. As a result the estimated requirements of the manufacturers in respect of locally grown tobacco have remained unaltered for 1961.

Domestic Virginian leaf blended with imported leaf is used in the manufacture of the " Embassy ", " Soirée ", " Domino " and " Cabaret " brands of local cigarettes which sell in competition with local cigarettes " Matinée " and " Mills " manufactured entirely from imported Virginian leaf and imported Virginian cigarettes.

Amarello and some of the lower grades of domestic Virginian are utilised for the cheaper brands, selling below the price range of imported cigarettes.

Tobacco is almost entirely grown in small plots, for the most part by peasant cultivators. In 1960 producers received on the average Rs 7.01 per kilo of Virginian flue-cured, Rs 5.88 per kilo of Amarello flue-cured; air-cured sold at Rs 2.56 per kilo.

Mauritius can produce flue-cured Virginian tobacco of good colour and aroma, but up to now attempts to obtain a footing on the export market have failed owing to the small acreage under cultivation and of the necessity to supply the " run of the crop ".

The area annually grown is determined by the Tobacco Board according to the estimated requirements. On the Board sit representatives of the various interests concerned. Closely connected with it is the Tobacco Warehouse which receives, grades, processes, bales, stores and sells all the tobacco produced in the Colony.

Fibre

Fibre is produced in Mauritius mainly from the *Furcraea Gigantea* plant, also known as " Mauritius Hemp " or " Aloe ". It is a hard leaf fibre resembling sisal which is also grown to some extent. Furcraea thrives mostly in wild growing plantations, mainly along the drier coastal belt. The yield of a wild plantation is roughly reckoned at half a ton of fibre per acre per year while that of a regular plantation is estimated at one ton.

The fibre is extracted from the leaves by scraping in decorticators. These decorticators are of the " Raspador " type. The green fibre obtained is washed and retted for 2 to 4 days after which it is washed, sun dried, brushed and baled.

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During the last five years, fibre production averaged 1,450 tons a year. The whole quantity was absorbed by the Government Sack Factory for processing into sacks for the transportation of sugar. In 1960, as a new departure, 800,000 sacks made of a mixture of local fibre and imported jute cuttings have been manufactured for export to Burma. These sacks will be used for the bagging of the rice imported into Mauritius.

Seventeen fibre factories were in operation in 1960. Production amounted to only 1,150 tons, a reduction of 22 per cent over the previous year. This reduction was due mainly to the cyclones that struck the island at the beginning of the year.

Thus the fibre produced was insufficient for the requirements of the Government Sack Factory which had to import jute cuttings to supplement the supplies of aloe fibre.

The following goods were produced by the Government Sack Factory in 1960:—

427,000 Aloe sacks, type 6×8, of 80 kgs. capacity
70,079 Aloe-jute sacks, type 5×7, of 80 kgs. capacity
746,250 Aloe-jute sacks type 5×8, of 80 kgs. capacity
26,691 sacks of other types
34,346 yards of filter press cloth
15,996 kilos of yarn
18,730 yards of other products
20,869 kgs. of other products.

All the fibre produced in the Island is handled by the Mauritius Hemp Producers' Syndicate, which grades, bales, stores and sells the fibre. The fibre is graded as "Very Good", "Good", "Tow" or "Cuttings". At one time the surplus fibre not absorbed by the Sack Factory found a ready market abroad, but owing to the fall in price of sisal no prospective overseas buyer has been found for Mauritius fibre in recent years.

Food Crops

Production of foodcrops and vegetables in Mauritius amounted to some 50,000 tons from an area of approximately 10,000 acres of the various crops grown.

The Extension Service of the Agricultural Department advises farmers on improved agricultural techniques for both Sugar cane and the cultivation of various crops. Meetings of planters in the evening are organised in the districts and planters are thus given a chance of discussing their major agricultural problems. In addition visits are paid to farmers in the field where advice is given. The farmers' interest on the control of pests and diseases is maintained by demonstrations carried out on the correct methods that should

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be applied under specific conditions and against particular pests or diseases. Successful control of the major pests and diseases attacking foodcrops and vegetables is generally achieved.

Livestock

The milk cattle population of 38,000 at the 1956 census has been on the increase and numbers approximately 40,000 to-day. Both herd cattle and draft cattle have further decreased in number through intensive mechanisation and the secondary part manure is now playing in comparison to fertilizers.

The Artificial Insemination campaign using Creole bulls has helped to infuse more Creole blood into the stock, so that improvement by selection within the breed is progressing satisfactorily. The high percentage of cows inseminated by the Extension Service indicates confidence of the small breeder in the breeding policy.

The goat population is being upgraded through crossing with Anglo Nubians. The framework of the goat is appreciably increased through that crossing.

The pig breeder is helped by obtaining pedigree Large White pigs from the Government Pig Breeding Centre for upgrading his pig.

The colony relies on imports of day-old chicks from Australia and South Africa to supply the requirements of breeders. The new Poultry Project will make the colony self sufficient in day-old chicks thus avoiding imports. The project will also serve as a demonstration for deep litter, broiler production and brooding chicks under infra-red lamp.

Fisheries

The control of the Mauritius fisheries is exercised by the Fisheries Division of the Department of Agriculture. This consists of a Fisheries Officer and a staff of 59 inspectors and guards who are responsible for the enforcement of the laws regulating fisheries, the collection and establishment of statistics and the study and implementation of all new measures which might be recommended for the better protection of the stock, for the improvement of the efficiency of the industry and the welfare of the fishing community.

The Department has given considerable attention to an aspect of production new to Mauritius, namely, the farming of freshwater fish for the production of food rich in protein which is deficient in the diet of most classes of the population.

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Fishing is practised in the lagoon surrounding most of the Island, which covers an area of about 95 square miles and on the off shore shelf, to the 100 fathoms line, which is extensive in the northern part forming a bank of about 200 square miles with an average depth of 35 fathoms. About 2,600 fishermen with some 1,800 light fishing boats and a number of deep-sea pinnaces, together produce an annual catch of some 2,000 tons.

Usually middlemen supply crafts and gear to the fishermen who in return bring their catch at an agreed price. The middlemen is expected to make advances during periods of forced idleness.

In view of the considerable damages caused by the two cyclones of January and February loans were granted from Government funds to fisherman for construction or repair of boats. This scheme has been successful and Rs 123,000 have been so spent during the year.

The local catch is entirely consumed locally. The price varies with the abundance of fish; it is generally lower during the summer months when more fish is caught.

Oyster Culture

Following expert advice obtained on modern methods of oyster culture, encouraging experiments have been made and it is expected to increase the annual yield which hitherto has been derived from natural oyster beds. Some owners of fish ponds, where conditions are suitable, are now co-operating to extend these methods past the experimental stage. It is hoped to put on the market oysters of commercial size in a year or two.

FORESTRY

(a) Areas of different types of forest. The statement below gives particulars of different types of forest areas in Mauritius:

Crown Forest Estate

A. *Areas potentially productive*	*Acreage*	*Total area in acres*
(a) Plantations of exotics	10,886	
(b) Area suitable and available for economic forestry:—		
(i) Mountain Reserves	3,140	
(ii) National Reserves	2,994	
(iii) Catchment areas	5,009	
(iv) Other areas	11,735	
		33,764
B. *Areas potentially unproductive*		
(i) Mountain Reserves	14,843	
(ii) National Reserves	1,220	
(iii) Catchment areas	5,035	
		21,098
C. *Areas leased and not available for forestry*		12,560
		67,422

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Leased Crown Lands in the Coastal belt of 250 (French) feet (Pas Géométriques)

(Pas Géométriques)

(i) Tree Plantations (mainly Casuarina equisetifolia) ...	4,400	
(ii) Rocky grazing lands with trees	1,100	
		5,500

Privately-owned forested lands

(i) Mountain Reserves, (ii) River Reserves — Protected by law	9,000 6,500	
		15,500
(iii) Forest Lands, (iv) Scrub Lands — Not protected by law	5,800 93,900	
		99,700
TOTAL=		120,700
GRAND TOTAL=		188,122

(b) Policy and methods of management

The Crown Forest Estate. The forest policy of the Government of Mauritius may be briefly summarised as follows:—

(i) To reserve in perpetuity sufficient land either already forested or capable of afforestation in order to safeguard and maintain water supplies, preserve the climatic and physical conditions of the Colony, prevent erosion and the silting up of reservoirs, provide forest produce for domestic, agricultural and industrial requirements and to maintain soil stability where the land is liable to deterioration if put to other uses;

(ii) to manage this Forest Estate so as to obtain the best returns on its capital value and the expenses of management, in so far as such returns are consistent with the primary aims set out above;

(iii) to set aside in perpetuity as ' National Reserves ' suitable areas of the native forests of Mauritius and to preserve such areas in their natural state by controlling, and preventing if possible, the intrusion and establishment of other-than-native trees and plants;

(iv) to encourage and assist the practice of sound forestry by private enterprise, and to educate selected Mauritians in technical forestry.

Most of the basic statistical information required for a *Working Plan* has been collected but a final decision is awaited in regard to the extent of Crown Land which is to be utilised permanently for productive and protected forestry.

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(c) Organisation of the forestry industry. The Forest Department is directly responsible for the management of the Crown Forest Estate; all silvicultural and exploitation operations within it are conducted by the Department which is directly exploiting, converting and selling all forest produce deriving from it. Privately-owned forested lands other than those protected by law are managed by individual owners and in the course of the year under review many owners have undertaken quite extensive replanting operations. All forest produce deriving from exploitation operations is consumed locally.

Within privately-owned forested lands protected by law, i.e. Mountain and River Reserves, no felling or forestry operations of any kind may be carried out without the approval of the Government, such approval being given only in exceptional circumstances and as a general rule restricted to the removal of dead and fallen timber.

(d) Initial processing of timber, sawmills. Felling and logging is carried out by means of the saw and the axe. The preference of the professional woodcutter for working on his own is very marked and the use of the axe, rather than saw and axe combined in felling —logging operations, preponderates and results in much avoidable waste. Several types of cross-cutting saw have been introduced and demonstrated but so far attempts to persuade woodcutters to work in teams have been unsuccessful. Timber is manhandled from stump to roadside and from there transported by lorries to sawmills, of which there are 63 in the Island, the majority inadequately powered.

(e) Marketing of produce. Timber from the Crown Forest Estate is sold either in the round or in converted form at the three Government Timber Stores at Port Louis, Rose Hill and Curepipe, managed by the Department. Fuel from the Crown Forest Estate is converted departmentally and sold in the forests to individual purchasers who remove it by lorry. A considerable quantity of fuel is converted into charcoal in the forests, the finished product being removed to and sold at Government Timber Stores.

Produce from privately-owned forests is generally sold standing to dealers in timber, firewood and charcoal, but some owners conduct their own exploitation operations.

The retail prices of forest produce from the Crown Forest Estate are appreciably lower than those charged by private traders and sawmillers.

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Forest Produce Exploited from Crown Forest Estate. The following tables give particulars of forest produce exploited on Crown Forest Lands during 1960:—

(a) *Hardwoods:*	*Cubic feet Log Volume*
(i) Eucalyptus	417,618.34
(ii) Camphor (*Camphora Officianarum*)	1,750.52
(iii) Tecoma (*Tabebuia pallida*)	3,472.15
(iv) Filao (*Casuarina equisetifolia*)	114,559.18
(v) Native species (*several*)	10,741.93
(vi) Others	24,487.71
TOTAL HARDWOODS =	572,629.83

(b) *Softwoods:*	*Cubic feet Log Volume*
(i) *Pinus taeda, caribaca (coniferous) & sinensis spp.* ...	57,804.30
(ii) *Juniperus Bedfordiana*	1,709.79
(iii) *Cryptomeria Japonica*	52,215.68
(iv) *Araucaria*	1,834.95
TOTAL SOFTWOODS =	113,564.72
GRAND TOTAL HARDWOODS AND SOFTWOODS =	686,194.55

(c) Firewood and charcoal. During 1960, 22,782.75 *'cordes'* of firewood, each of 50 stacked cubic feet (equivalent to 1,139,137.50 cubic feet solid), together with 256,740 Kgs of charcoal, were produced in the Crown Forest Estate.

From privately-owned forests and leased Crown Lands

(i) ***Timber.*** An estimated volume of some 200,000 cubic feet of round timber, principally *' filao '* and eucalyptus was produced (accurate figures are not available).

(ii) ***Firewood and charcoal.*** An estimated 5,695.75 *'cordes'* of firewood (284,787.50 cubic feet solid) and 800,000 kgs of charcoal were produced.

The Forest Department

The permanent establishment of the Department consists of 153 posts.

For the day-to-day conduct of forestry operations the Department employed during 1960 a labour force of approximately 1,066 labourers. These were employed at Forest Department Nurseries and at Government Timber Stores, and on silvicultural, exploitation and surveying operations, the cutting of timber and fuel and in the manufacture of charcoal.

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Organisation of the Department. The smallest administrative unit in the management of the Crown Forest Estate is the Forest Section, which is normally under the control of a Forester assisted by one or more Forest Guards. A number of Forest Sections constitute a Forest Range, administered by a Forest Range Officer with the assistance of one or more Deputy Forest Rangers. Two or more Forest Ranges constitute a Division, which is administered by a Divisional Forest Assistant under the general control of the Conservator of Forests. Two Assistant Conservators of Forests are employed on technical forestry operations, and the Deputy Conservator of Forests assists the Conservator of Forests in his administrative duties.

Cyclones. Two major cyclones struck the Island in 1960,—*Alix* on 19th January followed by Carol on 28th February. Extensive damage was caused to houses and agricultural crops, and to tree crops both in the native forests and in the artificial plantations of exotic timber species. Damage to pine plantations in the upland regions was particularly severe and approximately 2,000 acres of crops over 12 years of age were virtually destroyed. In the course of the year the department cut and supplied approximately one million hardwood poles for the reconstruction of houses blown down and for the construction of Refugee camps. Emergency expenditure amounting to Rs 241,683.13 was incurred on the supply of poles and Rs 12,790.09 on urgent repairs to Government buildings. Revenue from Cash sales of 357,914 poles to cyclone victims amounted to Rs 162,992 of which Rs 41,522 was credited to departmental revenue and Rs 121,470 to Capital Revenue Item LVI/3—Sale of Forest Poles.

Imports of timber. During 1960 a total of 647,296.42 cubic feet of converted timber of a gross value of Rs 4,841,204 was imported into the Colony, mainly from Malaya, Siam and Australia. Imported timber is used mainly in building construction; there is a marked local preference in its favour owing to its superior finish.

Food Production. Damage by deer, pigs and monkeys in the upland forest zones restricts the application of the '*taungya*' system to forest plantations within the lower and warmer elevations and the coastal belt.

Protection. The 4,520 acres of National Reserves continued to receive full attention. The experimental plots laid out in them to establish the best means of controlling exotics and at the same time foster the regeneration of native species are showing gratifying results.

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The experimental timber plantations created on the lower slopes of Signal Mountain were satisfactorily protected against fire. These plantations are surrounded by grass lands which are annually fired; no fires crossed into the rigidly protected areas.

No serious damage to Eucalyptus crops by the Curculionid beetle *(Gonipterus Scutellatus)* was reported.

Tea Cultivation. The cultivation of tea in Crown Lands " Wooton " and " Midlands " was extended. The Forest Department assisted the Tea Officer in the initial clearance of the areas.

Silviculture. A total area of 309.80 acres was newly planted during the year, principally with: *Eucalyptus robusta, umbellata, citriodora* and *Hybrid; Pinus taeda* and *elliottii; D. Latifolia; Swietenia Mahogany; Cinnamomum Camphora; Araucaria Cookii; Agathis Robusta.* In addition some 3,678.88 acres of plantations of from 5 — 20 years of age were treated culturally under weeding, cleaning, thinning and pruning operations.

Output of Forest Produce

The statement below gives the estimated volume in the round (log volume) of timber and forest produce, local or imported into Mauritius during 1960, and of other minor forest produce.

(i) Major Forest Produce (Timber) :

(A) Local Production	*Cubic ft. (solid)*
(a) Production from Crown Forests	686,194.55
(b) Production from unleased Pas Géométriques ..	1,000.00
(c) Production from privately-owned Forests and leased Pas Géométriques	200,000.00
TOTAL ...	887,194.55
(d) Imports from 1st January to 31st December, 1960 (sawn timber 647,296.42 cubic feet)	1,294,592.84
GRAND TOTAL ...	2,181,787.39

(ii) Minor Forest Produce :

	Cubic ft. (solid)
(a) Firewood from Crown Forest Lands (stacked) cordes of 50 cubic feet	1,139,137.50
(b) Firewood from privately-owned Forest Lands or leased Crown Lands estimated 5,695.75 stacked cordes of 50 cubic feet	284,787.50
TOTAL ...	1,423,925.00
	Kgms.
(c) Charcoal from Crown Forest Lands	256,740
(d) Charcoal from privately-owned forested lands or leased Crown Lands	800,000
TOTAL ...	1,056,740

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Revenue and Expenditure. During the year 1960, the Department was responsible for expenditure of Rs 2,403,361.12. The revenue derived by the Department from the sale of forest produce and shooting and fishing leases amounted to Rs 1,145,716.53.

Manufacturing Industries

Apart from the sugar, tea, tobacco and the fibre industries discussed above, there are local industries of lesser importance which comprise the manufacture of rum, wine, edible oil and soap, cigarettes, aerated beverages, dairy produce, salt, lime and bricks.

Various small trades, including printing, tanneries, mechanical and electrical workshops, flourish in the Colony.

The Customs Tariff Ordinance provides for exemptions from import duty in respect of machinery and apparatus intended solely for use in factories for the manufacture or preparation of most of the commodities which are produced in the Colony, and the Income Tax Ordinance provides for an " investment allowance " equal to one-tenth of the capital expenditure incurred on construction of buildings or provision of new machinery or plant, excluding road vehicles, for industrial purposes.

Co-operative Societies

The co-operative movement in Mauritius and Rodrigues is guided by a Department of Government in conjunction with a secondary society: the Mauritius Co-operative Union Ltd. The movement derives financial support from another secondary society, the Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank Ltd., whilst the interests of agricultural and distributive societies are attended to by the Mauritius Co-operative Agricultural Federation Ltd., and the Mauritius Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd., respectively.

The movement is composed of 4 Secondary Societies, 337 Primary Societies comprising 32,000 members; and divided into 174 Co-operative Credit Societies of unlimited liability of which 7 are confined to lessees of Crown lands in Land Settlement Schemes, and 163 Co-operative Societies of limited liability comprising 79 Consumers' Stores Societies, 49 Societies providing savings facilities (26 in Schools, 3 for salary earners including one credit union, 20 for other persons), 19 Transport Societies, 6 Marketing Societies, 5 Fishermen's Societies of which two furnished credit, 3 Housing Societies, one Printing Society and one Better Living Society.

The Department of Co-operation is responsible for the registration of new societies, including the advice, guidance and economic investigation involved in the organisation; for the audit

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and supervision of existing societies and for the education of officers and members in co-operative activities, in both of which it receives material assistance from the staff of the Mauritius Co-operative Union Ltd.; for arbitration in disputes, and, when necessary, for the cancellation of registration and liquidation of societies. During the year the raising of standards of management, secretarial work and book-keeping and the control of credit within the consumer section of the movement, continued to engage the main attention of the department.

The Mauritius Co-operative Union Ltd., at the end of the year, had a membership of 208 societies. Its objects are to promote co-operation, to bring together co-operative institutions for a common endeavour, to assist with supervision and audit, to promote education in co-operative activities and to represent the Movement. During the year the Union provided stationery to societies upon payment, used its mobile Cinema and equipment to give film shows, and furnished legal advice and assistance to societies. At the beginning of the year the staff consisted of thirteen supervisors of whom one acted as Secretary. With the resignation of one Supervisor in March and the appointment of two Supervisors to vacant posts of Co-operative Officers at the end of the year the staff was reduced to ten. The total revenue of the Union, for the financial year ending on 29th February, 1960, amounted to Rs 87,020 of which 28 per cent was derived from donations from Secondary Societies and 34 per cent from a grant in aid from Government (Rs 30,000) the balance of 38 per cent being the society's revenue from audit and supervision and from legal aid fees. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies is ex officio the President of the Union and of its central and executive committees. The Deputy Registrar and two Co-operative Officers are ex officio members of the Union.

The Mauritius Co-operative Agricultural Federation Ltd., with a membership of 148 societies, acts on behalf of its societies in agricultural matters and for this purpose retains the part-time services of a barrister and of a firm of Chartered Accountants. The Federation was represented on a number of Government boards and Committees. Its staff consists of a secretary and assistant secretary.

The Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank Ltd., at the end of the financial year, had a membership of 181 societies, share capital of Rs 540,793, reserves of Rs 803,366 and deposits of over two and a half million rupees. Loans issued amounted to Rs 3,745,546;

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rather less than the previous year. Loans overdue at the end of the year totalled Rs 6,884. Loans to member societies, consisting mainly of cane-growers, are secured on the societies' sugar, all of which is sold through the Bank's Secretary-Manager, who is also the Bank's broker. The annual rate of interest charged on loans by the Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank to the member societies was 5½ per cent from 1st March, 1959, to 31st January, 1960, and 6½ per cent thereafter.

The Mauritius Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd., with 79 member societies, had a turnover of Rs 4,810,227 for the financial year ended 29th February, 1960. The Society's share capital was Rs 123,907 and the statutory reserve amounted to Rs 78,542.

Credit Societies of Unlimited Liability

At the end of the year there were 174 credit societies of unlimited liability of which 19 were in Rodrigues, with something over 10,000 members. The majority of the members of the Mauritius societies are cane-growers, while those of the Rodrigues societies are mainly engaged in subsistence farming. On 29th February, 1960, loans by Mauritius societies to members totalled Rs 4,763,076 and were secured by a lien on the crops and by sureties. Payments to members for cane marketed through the agency of their societies amounted to Rs 19½ million. The deposits of members amounted to Rs 569,087. Share capital of all societies amounted to Rs 530,908.

Credit Societies of Limited Liability

Of the five Fishermen's Co-operative Societies of limited liability in existence at the end of the year two, one in Mauritius and one in Rodrigues, provided credit for members, the other three jointly owned fishing boats and gear, and marketed catches.

Thrift and Savings Societies

There were twenty three societies at the end of the year including one Credit Union which had not commenced operations. Two of the societies served salary earners only. Amongst rural societies members tended to find that savings could be effected as easily and more profitably with credit societies. At the close of the financial year ended 29th February, 1960, the savings in the two salary earners societies amounted to Rs 188,672 and in other societies to Rs 414,493.

School Savings Banks

By the end of the year the number of school savings banks in Mauritius was reduced to twenty-six. The transitory membership

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inevitable in schools does not make for stability and every school society finally depends upon the hard pressed and non-resident school staff. In addition, few schools have gardens or workshops which would enable pupils to save money earned by themselves by means more constructive than obtaining it from their parents; in rural areas pocket money for children is the exception rather than the rule. In Rodrigues, however, steady progress was maintained. The three school savings banks there saved up to the close of the financial year on 29th February, 1960, Rs 14,797 whereas in Mauritius the savings were Rs 84,911.

The Mauritius Co-operative Union continued to supply books free of charge from its Education Fund, and as a special concession to help the school savings banks to build up funds for communal activities, the Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank paid interest at 3½ per cent per annum on their deposits.

Co-operative Retail Stores

Three new societies were registered during the year and four were cancelled. At the end of 1960 there were 79 co-operative retail stores on the register, 76 in Mauritius and 2 in Rodrigues, with a membership of over 13,000 and a turnover of over Rs 6,000,000. The majority of societies operated successfully, but a few suffered losses through defalcations, bad management and excessive credit sales. In addition to the usual bad debts reserve, all societies are building up, by allocation of surplus, what is termed a mutual aid fund intended to cover credit sales up to the amount of the fund on the basis of a maximum credit limit for each member. In this way the fund serves as a buffer against losses on credit sales and makes up for capital tied up in debts.

Marketing Societies

The marketing of geen tea leaf is subject to the Tea Control Board appointed under the Tea Industry Control Ordinance, 1959. Green leaf is sold to factories under annual contract providing for monthly payments at an agreed rate per pound. A minimum rate is laid down and provision included for a final payment related to the sale proceeds of made tea, which is required to be sold or offered for sale to the Board. One hundred and seventy three members of the six tea marketing societies sold 522,653 kilos of green leaf under contract to tea factories up to the close of the financial year ended 29th February, 1960.

Other societies marketing produce consisted of three fishermen's societies.

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Housing Societies

Three housing societies had a total membership of 234, share capital of Rs 9,740 and deposits of Rs 16,879. They were financed by Government loan and owed Rs 287,710 to the Government at the close of the financial year ended 29th February, 1960.

Printing Society

The Co-operative printing society had 847 members, a share capital of Rs 29,834, and a printing press in Port Louis. It carried out Rs 52,005 worth of printing business during its financial year ended 29th February, 1960.

Transport Societies

The number of Transport Societies decreased to 19 by the end of 1960. Statistics for the financial year show a membership reduced to 992, paid up share capital increased to Rs 297,404, and a reduction in cane transported to 46,412 tons. Capital expenditure incurred by members of these societies is reimbursed from the Sugar Planters Rehabilitation Fund. Licence fees (and therefore insurance premiums) continued to be paid at the same rate as public transporters.

Better Living Society

One co-operative better-living society with 37 members operated in Long Mountain. It maintained a kindergarten school for about 50 children under five years of age. The kindergarten school was no longer assisted by the Village Council but received a subsidy from a Co-operative Credit Society.

Educational Activities

In addition to regular staff conferences for the discussion of points of Co-operative Law, practice and accounting, the staff continued to take correspondence courses in book-keeping and other subjects from the Co-operative College, Loughborough, and one of them successfully sat for examinations. The Co-operative Union showed films on co-operative subjects throughout Mauritius, until this activity was suspended for financial reasons.

Audit

The audit of all societies' accounts for the period ending 29th February, 1960, was completed. Except in the case of three secondary societies the printing society and one salary earners thrift society which employed professional or approved auditors, the audits were carried out by the staff of the Department of Co-operation assisted by the Mauritius Co-operative Union Ltd. In addition to the annual statutory audit, interim audits were done throughout the year.

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Arbitrations

Three hundred and twenty-two disputes were referred to the Registrar during the year. The majority were referred to arbitration; appeals to the Registrar numbered five. Most of the disputes arose from failure to pay for goods purchased on credit, others concerned stock and cash shortages in stores, and a minority a failure to repay loans. Where necessary the awards were referred for execution to the attorney of the Mauritius Co-operative Union Ltd. The Co-operative movement was fortunate in retaining the honorary services as arbitrators of two retired civil servants, and two retired teachers, all active members of the movement.

TABLE

The following table gives an indication of progress made over three years:—

		1958	*1959*	*1960*
Total Societies ...		343	342	338
Total Members ...		34,557	33,514	32,420*
Total Turnover ...	Rs	38,504,401*	44,173,734*	44,130,209*
Share Capital ...	Rs	1,636,184	1,759,168	1,909,840
Reserve Funds ...	Rs	2,347,382*	2,506,306*	2,793,357*
Other Funds ...	Rs	478,911*	578,771*	674,393*
Government loans to Societies ...	Rs	280,708	317,132	314,490*
Total Assets ...	Rs	12,274,049*	12,791,369*	13,127,144*

*For the year ended 28th February.

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Chapter 7: Social Services

EDUCATION

Organization

The enactment of the Education (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 2 of 1960) introduced an important change in the organisation of Education by placing the Education Department under the direct control of the Minister of Education and Cultural Affairs who is now statutorily responsible for the progress and development of education in Mauritius. The statutory duties and powers of the Minister are similar to those vested in the Minister of Education in the United Kingdom by the Education Act, 1944.

The practical changes which resulted from the integration of the Education Department with the Ministry are that the statutory duties and powers of the former Director of Education—whose post has been abolished—have been transferred to the Minister assisted by a Permanent Secretary who is his chief adviser and is responsible to him for the proper administration of the Ministry; the former posts of Principal Assistant Secretary, Deputy Director and Assistant Directors have similarly been abolished and replaced by those of Administrative Secretary, Chief Education and Senior Education Officers.

The staff of the Ministry now comprises about 4,000 officers.

An Advisory Board advises the Minister on all questions concerning education in the Colony which may be referred to it by the Minister.

Educational Facilities

On the 31st October, 1960, there were 195 Government and Aided Primary schools providing free education to 106,954 pupils. The 76 aided schools are managed by four Education Authorities: Roman Catholic (53 schools), Church of England (17 schools), Hindu (4 schools) and Muslim (2 schools). There were in addition 369 other primary and secondary schools registered with the Ministry with a roll of 17,075 primary school children. This number, which includes 3,496 children in the primary sections of the secondary schools brought the total number of children receiving primary education in 1960 to 124,029 as compared with 126,173 the previous year. Of that total 67,343 were boys and 56,686 girls.

Teachers in aided primary schools are paid by the Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs and are appointed, transferred or promoted on the recommendation of the Authority concerned. The promotion of teachers in the Government primary schools is, like

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that of other civil servants, subject to the Governor's approval, which is usually given on the advice of the Public Service Commision.

In primary education the English pattern is followed, generally speaking, subject to adjustments to suit local conditions. The course lasts six years; pupils enter at the age of 5 but are allowed to stay up to the age of 12 to compete for the junior scholarships which entitle the winners to free tuition in secondary schools.

According to the Education Ordinance, a total of 120 Government schorlarhips are obtainable on a competitive basis, 70 for boys and 50 for girls. These scholarships which provide free secondary education, free travelling and a grant of Rs 300 a year, are tenable at Government aided and unaided secondary schools which have been given approval as ' B ' status schools.

Secondary education is almost exclusively of the grammar school type, leading to university courses. Government schools can meet only part of the demand and since 1951 a number of private schools which can offer satisfactory guarantees of proper schooling up to School Certificate or Higher School Certificate level has been subsidized. There were on the 31st October, 1,456 pupils in the three Government secondary schools 2,557 in the subsidized schools known as " approved secondary schools " and 18,827 in the unaided secondary schools. This total of 22,840 secondary pupils was made up of 15,407 boys and 7,433 girls. The 72 secondary schools comprise 3 Government, 8 grant-aided and 61 other schools.

Apart from the College of Agriculture and Training College, there are no institutions in the Colony which provide full-time post-secondary education, and students wishing to follow university and other post-secondary courses have to go overseas. In 1960, there were 610 students following courses in institutions of higher education in the United Kingdom, Eire, on the Continent of Europe and in India.

All those seeking permanent service in the Government and aided primary schools must pass through the Teachers' Training College at Beau Bassin. The normal course is of two years' duration but this has to be supplemented from time to time by shorter courses to meet the demand for new teachers. During the year, 444 students (270 men and 174 women) were in training at the College or in the primary schools.

Many of the primary school buildings were damaged by cyclones Alix and Carol at the beginning of the year and special arrangements had to be made to repair buildings and to provide

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temporary accommodation. Some 132 temporary classrooms were erected and tents were used to provide temporary shelter. Three buildings were also rented to provide emergency accommodation.

Some of the schools were so badly damaged that they had to be rebuilt, Appreciable progress has been made in the rehabilitation of schools and it is expected that the majority of the work will be completed in the course of 1961.

Four new primary schools were built during the year under review and five others were under construction. Accommodation was still scarce by the end of the year and some schools have had to operate a double shift system up to Standard IV. Fortunately the double shift system was avoided in Standards V and VI.

Plans were made for the extension of the Royal Colleges at Curepipe and Port Louis and for a new bilateral Government secondary school at Beau Bassin, which will offer courses in technical and academic subjects.

School Health Service

The School Health Service falls under two headings: medical and dental. The medical staff comprises a Senior School Medical Officer, a School Medical Officer; in addition eight Medical Officers, working under three Medical Officers of Health, give part time attention to schools. The nursing staff consists of six Nurses assisted by three Health Workers. There are six dentists, assisted by Clinical and Clerical Assistants, giving part time attention to schools.

Entrants into all Government and aided primary schools and into the three Government secondary schools are medically examined. Leavers and pupils in the intermediate age group are also medically examined. Free medical treatment is provided for primary school pupils. All new teaching staff and school caretakers are medically examined and X-rayed.

The School Nurses and Health Workers carry out cleanliness and health surveys (including distance vision testing) in the primary schools.

The medical staff is helped by an Assistant Nutritionist whose duties include giving talks on nutrition to senior pupils in primary schools and to mothers of school children, weighing and measuring pupils, and rendering assistance in connexion with the School Milk Scheme. The issue of iron tablets with the daily milk ration in Government and Aided primary schools are continued. Extra milk, iron, yeast and halibut all capsules are also issued on the recommendation of the Medical Officers.

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The dental service provides treatment to primary school pupils only. Pupils of schools in the urban areas are treated at the hospitals while schools in rural areas are visited by four Mobile Dental Clinics. Teeth cleaning drills are held regularly at school. Tooth brushes at a subsidised price are available for sale to primary school pupils. Nit combs and nail brushes are sold at cost price to school children and their parents.

Lectures on Hygiene and methods of Health Education were given once a week during the year to students at the Teachers' Training College by a Health Inspector holding a Diploma in Health Education.

All school health personnel are officers of the Health Department.

Handicrafts

The teaching of handicrafts in primary schools suffered a severe setback as a result of cyclones *Alix* and *Carol*. Several handicraft centres suffered damage and, on account of the lack of school places resulting from the cyclones, those which were spared had to be converted into ordinary classrooms. Handicraft teachers were accordingly transferred to do ordinary classwork. Light handwork activities were gradually resumed during the last school term.

In the Government central and secondary schools the handicraft programme was pursued throughout the year, except for a short interruption after the cyclones.

Mr. J. C. Jones, C.B.E., Adviser on Technical Education to the Secretary of State for the Colonies visited the Colony In August, 1960.

School Broadcasts

The programmes intended for 105 of the Government and aided primary schools which are equipped with radio sets were broadcast twice weekly and included the B.B.C. " Listen and Write" Series and talks entitled "Things we use". There were also twice weekly broadcasts to the secondary schools mainly of B.B.C. material.

Visual and Aural Education

The activities of the Visual Aids Section include the drawing up of weekly film show programmes for the Government and aided primary schools, giving previews of the films to the teachers on Saturdays, going round the Government and aided primary schools to show the films, and distributing visual aids, materials (filmstrips,

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picture sets, photographs) to those schools. This year the Mobile Unit again visited all primary schools, once in each school term, and a second operator visited Government and Approved Secondary Schools on a fortnightly basis. The Visual Aids Section was also frequently on call to provide public address facilities and recorded music on school and Youth Organisation outdoor occasions. During the School Certificate Examinations the Section was also responsible for playing back tape-recorded dictations in three examination centres.

Music

The Royal School of Music Examinations have now become an established annual event. The results obtained in class singing by the Government and aided secondary schools, were the best yet achieved. Dr. Henry Watson, from Christ Church Oxford, was examiner for 1960. More than one hundred individual candidates were successful and some obtained distinction or merit. Music in Primary schools suffered a severe setback as a result of the cyclones. The Primary School Teachers Orchestra also had a difficult year, but was kept alive by a few enthusiasts.

Further Education

Post-primary continuation classes were organized at 24 centres with a total enrolment of 764 pupils.

Post-secondary continuation classes provide instruction on a fee-paying basis in commercial subjects (with a view to those enrolled taking the London Chamber of Commerce and Royal Society of Arts examination) and also in art, bookbinding, woodwork and weaving.

Science extension classes provide laboratory facilities for students reading for the G.C.E., Intermediate and Final B.Sc. examinations, and for local examinations in Pharmacy. The subjects studied are Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Botany and Zoology. In 1960 about 176 students followed a practical course in one or other of these subjects.

Youth Organisations

Special emphasis continued to be placed during the year on the expansion of the Youth movement in the rural areas. There are now six regional federations with executive committees elected from clubs and organizations. Representatives from the federations are members of the Youth Council which is the body officially recognised by the World Assembly of Youth.

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There has been an increase in the total number of clubs and organisations. There are now 756 of them which are affiliated to Youth House, with an approximate membership of 85,000. Mauritius continues its affiliation to W.A.Y.

Expenditure

Expenditure on Education during the financial year 1959–60 amounted to Rs 22.41 million of which Rs 19.18 million was recurrent and Rs 3.23 million was capital expenditure. Recurrent expenditure represents very nearly 14 per cent of total Government expenditure of a recurrent nature.

Public Health

The medical services are administered by a Director of Medical Services, assisted by two deputies. They are organised into nine divisions and form one of the largest Government departments.

The functions of the Medical and Health Department are:

(a) to investigate the influence of social, environmental and domestic factors on the incidence of human disease and disability;

(b) to plan and carry out measures for the promotion of health;

(c) to institute and maintain measures for the prevention of disease;

(d) to provide a quarantine service to prevent the introduction of infectious diseases by sea or air;

(e) to provide facilities for treatment of disease, including mental disease, by maintenance of hospital and dispensary services;

(f) to make provision for the rehabilitation of the disabled;

(g) to control the practice of medicine, dentistry and pharmacy;

(h) to provide facilities for the training of nurses, midwives, sanitary officers;

(i) to advise local authorities regarding their health services and to inspect those services;

(j) to prepare and publish reports and statistical or other information relating to health.

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General Health

The improvement in health conditions during the past few years, as demonstrated by the following statistical figures, is one of the most notable features in the recent history of the Colony.

Year	*Birth rate per °/₀₀*	*Death rate per °/₀₀*	*Infant Mortality rate per °/₀₀*	*Maternal Mortality rate per °/₀₀*
1938 ...	33·4	29·9	162·5	11·38
1943 ...	33·1	25·9	141·5	5·14
1950 ...	49·7	13·9	76·3	3·51
1955 ...	41·8	12·9	67·2	1·47
1956 ...	43·8	11·8	66·0	2·13
1957 ...	43·1	13·0	75·1	2·84
1958 ...	40·8	11·8	67·4	3·73
1959 ...	38·5	10·9	62·5	2·41
1960 ...	39.6	11.3	69.5	1.66

Malaria

Although malaria has ceased to be a public health problem since 1953, a plan for the final eradication of the disease is being implemented with the guidance and technical help of the World Health Organisation. As a result of the cyclones there was an increase in the number of cases of malaria detected and the figure for the whole year is 1,179. The figures below indicate the fall in the death rate due to malaria.

Year	*Deaths ascribed to malaria*	*Rate per 0/00 population*	*Percentage of deaths due to malaria to total deaths*
1945 ...	3,534	8·34	23·13
1948 ...	1,580	3·58	15·02
1951 ..	285	0·59	3·95
1952 ...	188	0·37	2·52
1953 ...	61	0·12	0·73
1954 ...	27	0·05	0·32
1955 ...	3	0·00	0·04
1956 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1957 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1958 ...	1	0·00	0·01
1959 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1960 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil

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Infective and Parasitic Diseases

There has been a slight increase in the number of cases of diphtheria and typhoid. The reasons may be ascribed to the conditions created by the cyclones.

Year	*Deaths (ascribed to infective and parasitic diseases)*
1948 ...	4,052
1949 ...	1,603
1951 ...	863
1954 ...	665
1955 ...	311
1956 ...	354
1957 ...	416
1958 ...	315
1959 ...	263
1960 ...	403

Poliomyelitis

Only 1 paralytic case was notified during the year. Trivalent Sabin vaccine was fed to 54,898 infants and adolescents during the months of August and September.

Enteric Fever

114 cases of enteric fever were notified, giving an incidence rate of 17.8 per 100,000. A T.A.B. campaign was conducted just after the cyclones: 251,028 children and adults received 1 injection and 163,258 received 2 injections of the vaccine.

Mortality Rates

Mortality from the principal groups of diseases is hereunder summarised:—

Group	*Number of deaths*	
	1959	*1960*
(*a*) Infective and parasitic diseases	263	403
(*b*) Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs ...	393	413
(*c*) Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs	410	429
(*d*) Diseases of the circulation system	650	800
(*e*) Diseases of the respiratory system	797	798
(*f*) Diseases of the digestive system	914	1035
(*g*) Certain diseases of early infancy	722	725

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Institutional Facilities

The institutional facilities which were available in 1960 are tabulated hereunder:—

	No.	Beds
(a) *Government Institutions*		
1 General	8	1,191
2. Dispensaries (including 2 in the prisons)	52	—
3. Specialized Units : –		
(*a*) Maternity and Child Welfare Centres	23	—
(*b*) Maternity wards in hospitals	8	103
(*c*) Leprosarium	1	61
(*d*) Mental Hospital	1	747
(*e*) Orthopaedic Hospital	1	202
(*f*) Prisons Hospitals	2	46
(*g*) Tuberculosis (Emergency)	1	82
4. Mobile Units :—		
(*a*) Dispensaries	4	units
(*b*) Ante-natal Clinic	1	unit
(*c*) Dental clinic	4	units
(b) *Private Institutions*		
1. Sugar estate hospitals	27	593
2. Sugar estate dispensaries	18	—
3. Nursing homes and clinics	5	89

There are 39 dispensaries in the rural areas. In addition a Mobile Dispensary service comprising four units caters for the needs of scattered villages and hamlets where it would be uneconomic to provide a static out-patient service.

The maternity and infant Welfare Service is supplemented by a mobile unit which visits 81 localities in the rural districts.

Medical and Health Staff

	Government	*Private*
1. Registered Medical Practitioners	86	68
2. Dentists	6	31
3. Pharmacists	3	47
4. Nurses of senior training ...	9	—
Nurses in hospitals	256	—
Dressers in hospitals	247	—
5. Midwives (all categories) ...	68	—
6. Sanitary Inspectors	54	—
7. X-Ray Specialists	3	—
8. X-Ray Technicians	7	—

Expenditure on Health Services

Government expenditure on medical and health services in the financial year 1959–60 was Rs 14,313,375, or 10.36 per cent of the Colony's total expenditure for the year. This represented Rs 22.68 per head of the estimated population.

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Building and Planning

Town Planning

The Town and Country Planning Officer assumed duty in September. Six planning areas were declared, covering the Municipality of Port Louis, the three Town Councils and strips of land approximately 50 ft. wide on each side of existing and proposed trunk roads. Outline planning schemes for these areas were in course of preparation at the end of the year.

Housing

The two disastrous cyclones in January and February demolished large numbers of houses. The Government quickly erected shelters which housed 3,337 families and many other families share accommodation with relatives and friends. The Housing Adviser to the Secretary of State for the Colonies visited the island and recommended a programme of building of 25,000 houses. Through generous grant and loan assistance made by Her Majesty's Government, it was possible to undertake all the preliminary arrangements for Phases I and II of the housing scheme consisting of a programme of 20,000 houses. Legislation was introduced during the year to establish the Central Housing Authority to implement this housing programme and in September tenders were invited for 3,000 pre-fabricated houses. The registration of application for the houses was undertaken on an island-wide basis and 27,000 applications were received. It is the intention to complete the programme of 20,000 houses within a period of 5 years.

Building Construction

As a result of the cyclones the gradual replacement of timber buildings by concrete buildings has been greatly accelerated. Existing timber buildings, mainly because in the past timber used for construction was not treated against termites or rot, suffered extremely serious damage in the cyclones. Beautifully maintained buildings collapsed revealing rot and termite damage to the main supports and framing of the building whilst the cladding remained in first class condition.

Building Works

The building industry has been generally engaged during the year on the vast reconstruction programme; very few new Capital Works were started for Government or for Local Authorities apart from the letting, at the end of the year, of a very large contract for the Sugar Industry Welfare Fund Housing Scheme.

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Government Buildings

During the year under review, very few new government buildings were started as work was concentrated on the Cyclone Reconstruction Programme and the completion of buildings carried over from the previous year. The two modern blocks of offices for ministerial staff were among the buildings completed during the year.

Public Assistance

Outdoor Relief

The basic organisation for the registration, investigation and adjudication of applications for outdoor relief, remained the same in 1960 as in 1959.

New applications received in 1960 amounted to 19,955 of which 15,480 were approved, while 15,908 allowances were withdrawn from the register during the year. The total number of cases on roll at 31st December, 1960, was 21,603 as compared with 22,101 at the end of the preceding year.

The basic scale rates which were introduced in 1952 by the Outdoor Relief Committee (Darlow Committee) and altered in 1953, with effect from July, 1952, provided for an increase of Rs 1.50 per adult and Re 1 per child to meet changes in the cost of living. These scale rates were further increased in early 1958 by the same amount with effect from the 1st July, 1957.

The total amount disbured on Outdoor Relief in 1960 was Rs 7,665,438 (the average regular monthly payment being Rs 28.01 as against Rs 28.03 for 1959).

Relief in kind

The number and cost of blankets and flannel under-garments distributed to needy recipients of outdoor relief during the winter season in 1960, as compared with 1959, are as under:

Year	*Blankets*	*Flannels*	*Total cost*
	Units	*Units*	*Rs*
1959 ...	8,113	1,435	78,632.97
1960 ...	5,166	1,309	44,408.00

In addition to these comforts, 761 pairs of spectacles and 5 frame, 14 lenses and 2 clips for spectacles to the value of Rs 9,873.50 were also issued to recipients of Outdoor Relief and to Old Age Pensioners in 1960 on the recommendation of the eye specialist.

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Workrooms

Work in lieu of relief continued to be provided in the workrooms throughout the year to 45 persons mostly widows with large families. Their total earnings for the year on a piece-rate basis amounted to Rs 50,960.20 as follows:

	Rs
Lingerie (out-workers)	8,416.15
Sergerie and Uniforms (in-workers) ...	42,544.05
TOTAL ...	50,960.20

The average monthly earning was therefore Rs 94.38 per relief worker.

Indoor Relief

There was no addition in 1960 to the number of institutions providing indoor treatment.

The number of inmates in the infirmaries and orphanages at the end of 1960, including harmless mental patients transferred from the Brown Sequard Hospital (Mental) was as under:

	Male	*Female*	*Total*
Infirm ...	356	318	674
Orphans ...	73	103	176

as compared with 696 infirms and 198 orphans at the end of the preceding year.

The capitation grant for both adults and children in the Charitable Institutions continued to be Rs 1.20 per head per day.

A programme of outings to the seaside was arranged for the inmates of all infirmaries and orphanages in 1960 and these outings were much appreciated. However, the usual Holiday Camp for a week at the Cannoniers Point, in conjunction with the Youth Organisation, could not be organised for the orphans on account of cyclone *"Carol"* and the eventual conversion of the Holiday Camp into a temporary T.B. Hospital.

Frequent visits were paid in 1960 to the various institutions by members of voluntary organisations who distributed sweets and cigarettes to inmates and provided them with musical and other entertainment.

Old Age Pensions

An old age pension of Rs 22 per month is payable to persons who qualify for such under the Old Age Pension Ordinance, 1951, as subsequently amended. 3,600 new cases were dealt with during the year, of which 3,379 were granted. The cases turned down were those in respect of persons not fulfilling the required statutory

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conditions in regard to residence. The number of old age pensioners at the end of 1960 was 27,660, and the total disbursements during the year amounted to Rs 7,281,612 as against Rs 7,005,485 in 1959.

Repatriation

Expenditure of Rs 7,422.57 was incurred in 1960 on the repatriation of 22 destitute Mauritians from abroad.

The number of repatriates on record at the end of 1960 was 74 and repayments amounting to Rs 5,497.28 were effected by liable parties during the year.

Relief to Destitute Mauritians abroad

During the year there were nine persons in receipt of "hard core" relief. The total amount disbursed in 1960 was Rs 16,105.94 as against Rs 9,556.26 the previous year.

Cyclones "Alix" and "Carol" and their aftermath

Cyclones *Alix* and *Carol* threw a most unusual burden on the Department and emergency relief work had to be hastily organised to bring assistance in cash and kind to the victims, who were numbered by thousands. Among other post-cyclone duties, the Public Assistance Department was responsible for:

(i) distribution, with the collaboration of primary school teachers and other Government Officers, in two instalments to about 200,000 families of four-rupee in food vouchers amounting to Rs 1,695,241;

(ii) distribution, in conjunction with the Electoral Commission, of 85,092 gift parcels donated to the cyclone victims by the Govenor's Mauritius Cyclone Relief Fund Committee;

(iii) compilation, first daily, then twice weekly, of statistics of homeless victims in Refugee Centres all over the island; and

(iv) rehousing in temporary shelters, erected by Government, of 12,889 refugees from the Refugee Centres.

Social Welfare

Departmental Organization

The Social Welfare Department was created in July, 1958, and was made responsible for social welfare and the Probation service which were previously the responsibility of the Public Assistance and the Judicial Departments. The Department works in close co-operation with other Government departments and voluntary social service organizations and is associated with the Ministry of Health and Reform Institutions.

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In June, 1958, a Social Development Board was set up to replace the Social Welfare Advisory Committee and to advise the Minister on all social development matters which he may refer to the Board and to enlist the co-operation and to coordinate the activities of all voluntary organisations in the field of social welfare.

Social Welfare Centres

There were 14 Social Welfare Centres, built or rented by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund Committee, in the rural districts during the year. A fifteenth Centre (the first to be built by Government) is under construction at Roche Bois in the outskirts of Port Louis. These centres play an important part in the development of community activities and in the general social education of the people in the rural areas. They also provide certain medical facilities. A maternity and child welfare service is attached to each centre and milk is distributed free while doctors paid by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund Committee attend to expectant and nursing mothers reporting to the centre. Arrangements have also been made for the provision of a midwifery service: a midwife has been attached by the Medical Department to each of nine centres and in the remaining five the midwifery service is run under the technical supervision of the Medical Department out of funds provided largely by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund.

In all villages where they exist, social welfare centres are the focal points for afternoon and evening activities. Indoor games, sports, and listening to the radio are the main activities. In some centres there are formal literary classes, supplemented from time to time by debates and lectures. Film shows by mobile cinema units are a regular feature at each centre.

Agricultural demonstration plots have been set up at some social welfare centres with a view to teaching the local farmers how production can be increased by the adoption of modern methods of cultivation. Vegetable growers are also encouraged to organise themselves into Farmers' Clubs.

Needlework and dressmaking classes are held at each centre for the benefit of the village girls.

Canteens where non-alcoholic drinks are sold at a reasonable price for consumption on the premises have been set up with a view to combating the evils of alcoholism.

The centres are managed by local committees and conferences grouping the chairmen of these committees are held from time to time under the chairmanship of the Social Welfare Commissioner to co-ordinate the various welfare activities.

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Welfare Months

To stimulate community activities the holding of welfare months at social welfare centres has proved to be a successful technique. During the month chosen, a health exhibition is held at the centre where officers of departments such as Agriculture, Health, Education, and Social Welfare give lectures and demonstrations to the people, drawing their attention to the problems of the village and suggesting solutions. Local women's associations, boys' clubs, co-operative societies and other welfare organizations are closely associated in the holding of these welfare months.

Women's Welfare

The development of women's associations is being encouraged, especially in the rural areas. The aim of these associations is to bring the women together to learn things which will be of help in their homes, to improve conditions in the village, and to develop a spirit of friendliness, co-operation and initiative. There were 64 such associations registered with the Social Welfare Department at the end of 1960.

Most of these associations run a sewing class for the benefit of the girls of the village and there is also a fortnightly sewing class held by a dressmaker employed by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund. In some places a handicraft class is held.

An exhibition was successfully organised by the Women's associations in November.

Voluntary Workers' Conference

The Social Welfare Department organises from time to time conferences of voluntary workers to discuss ways and means of developing the rural areas and raising the standard of living.

Anti-spitting Campaign

An island wide anti-spitting campaign lasting a month was started in July. Its result has been most encouraging as it has brought home to the general public the danger of indiscriminate spitting.

Treatment of Offenders

The probation system introduced in the Island in 1946 has made satisfactory progress. Probation applies to both juveniles and adults and it is worthy of note that more adults than juveniles pass through the hands of Probation Officers. A certain amount of social work connected with the courts (e.g. settling matrimonial disputes, handling of difficult children, etc.), is also undertaken by Probation Officers, many of whom have been trained in the United Kingdom.

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The Probation Service pays particular attention to the prevention of delinquency. One means adopted is to urge youths in villages to take advantage of the amenities available in social welfare centres and thus put their leisure to profitable use.

Probationers are required to report to Probation Officers in social welfare centres, where these exist, instead of going to the Court. In a welfare centre the Probation Officer can spend more time with the individual delinquent child and is in a better position to enforce rehabilitation measures than would otherwise be possible.

The first probation hostel for boys was opened in May, 1954. It is non-denominational, is managed by a representative committee and can accommodate fifteen boys. There were ten boys at the end of the year in the hostel: they were regularly employed outside the hostel, half of their earnings going towards their keep. Voluntary workers help the management in regard to the education and health of the inmates.

In the field of after-care, Probation Officers help with the rehabilitation of juveniles released from the Industrial School and from Borstal.

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Chapter 8: Legislation

Sixty-two Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council and assented to by the Governor during the year 1960. The most important of these Ordinances which deal principaliy with matters of domestic concern are:—

The Cyclone and Drought Insurance Fund (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 1 of 1960)

This Ordinance provides a new basis for the payment of compensation to make good any loss of sugar production arising out of cyclones and droughts. It also gives to the Board closer control over matters relating to the compulsory insurance of the sugar crop of the Colony against damage arising out of cyclone and droughts.

The Education (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 2 of 1960)

This Ordinance provides for the integration of the Ministry of Education and the Department of Education. It makes the Minister responsible for the general progress and development of the Educational System of the Colony.

The Public Meetings and Processions (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 3 of 1960)

This Ordinance provides for the better control of Public Meetings and Processions by laying an obligation upon the organisers to indicate the date, time and duration of the meetings. It also provides that where a poll is to be taken in any declared area for any election under the provisions of the Representation of the People Ordinance, 1958, no further meeting (other than a religious meeting) shall be held after 11.30 p.m. in that electoral area on the eve of the day fixed for the taking of the poll.

The District Courts (Criminal Jurisdiction) (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 4 of 1960)

This Ordinance provides that preliminary enquiries shall be held in open court unless the enquiring Magistrate deems it advisable in the interests of justice to hold such enquiries in camera.

The Central Electricity Board (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 6 of 1960)

This Ordinance alters the constitution of the Board and provides that it will be responsible for the preparation of Estimates

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and Audit to be submitted to the Minister not less than six weeks before the end of the year.

The Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 7 of 1960)

This Ordinance provides certain improvements in the procedure relating to the registration of electors and the conduct of elections in the light of experience acquired at the last elections for the Legislative Council. Part IV of the principal Ordinance relating to Electors' Cards is repealed.

The Landlord and Tenant (Control) Ordinance (No. 13 of 1960)

This Ordinance provides for the establishment of Housing Tribunals composed of a Chairman with legal qualifications and of two members to hear and determine matters and actions arising out of the tenancy. The Housing Tribunals are also empowered to order landlords to repair their properties within a reasonable delay and to reduce the rent thereof pending the repairs.

The Courts (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 14 of 1960)

This Ordinance provides for the creation of a Criminal Court, styled the Intermediate Criminal Court, to replace the present Bench of Magistrates so as to ensure more expeditious trials of important criminal cases. The Intermediate Criminal Court is further empowered to hear such cases as Arson, Bigamy, Procuring Miscarriage, Involuntary Homicide hitherto triable at the Assizes, should the Attorney General decide to refer such cases to that Court.

The Customs (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 17 of 1960)

This Ordinance empowers the Comptroller of Customs to detain the goods of an importer or exporter who owes Customs Duties to Government and gives effect to an International Customs Convention by extending to pleasure boats, pleasure vessels and aircraft the existing facilities for the importation of vehicles by visitors to the Colony. It also empowers Customs Officers to search by night as well as by day premises where goods liable to forfeiture are suspected to be kept or concealed.

The Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 19 of 1960)

This Ordinance implements the recommendations of the Committee appointed to enquire into the use and cultivation of gandia.

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It provides for more severe penalties and extends to Forest Officers the powers of arrest of Police and Customs Officers under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance.

The Moneylenders (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 20 of 1960)

This Ordinance provides for the exclusion from the operation of the Moneylenders Ordinance, 1959, of notarial deeds and loans effected by the agency of licensed brokers.

The Medical Practitioners (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 21 of 1960)

This Ordinance provides for the transfer to a Medical Board or its Chairman of certain powers and duties hitherto performed by the Director of Medical Services under the Medical Practitioners' Ordinance. It also provides that a medical practitioner may be struck off the register for infamous conduct.

The Pensions (Gratuities and Options) Ordinance
(No. 22 of 1960)

This Ordinance increases the multiplying factor for the assessment of gratuities under the Pensions Ordinance and the Aided School Teachers' Pensions Ordinance, 1952.

The Town Councils (Constitution) (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 25 of 1960)

This Ordinance was passed to allow residents or occupiers of premises affected by the alteration of Town Limits to be included in the register for the Electoral Area of the Town or Towns affected.

The Geneva Conventions Ordinance
(No. 28 of 1960)

This Ordinance provides that time within which protected persons may appeal against a conviction or sentence shall not begin to run until notice has been given to the protecting power.

The Cyclone and Drought Insurance Fund (Amendment No. 2) Ordinance

(No. 31 of 1960)

This Ordinance provides for the assessment of the compensation payable to all planters under the Ordinance on a new basis, and alters the composition of the Board by increasing by one the number of appointed members, two of whom represent small planters. It also empowers the Board to make advances on account of compensation in certain cases.

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The Central Housing Authority Ordinance
(No. 32 of 1960)

This Ordinance provides for a Central Housing Authority with powers usually given to such an authority in other countries, for the purpose of promoting the better housing of the people of the Colony. Special powers are given to the Authorities for the assistance of owners whose buildings are damaged by cyclones.

The Department of Public Works and Surveys (Transfer of Control) Ordinance
(No. 34 of 1960)

This Ordinance provides for the integration of the Ministry of Works and Internal Communications and the Department of Public Works and transfers to the Permanent Secretary all powers to be exercised by and duties imposed upon the Director of Public Works and Surveys.

The Landlord and Tenant Control Ordinance
(No. 35 of 1960)

This Ordinance abolishes the Housing Tribunals constituted under section 3 of the principal Ordinance and transfers to the appropriate District Courts the jurisdiction to hear and determine all matters arising out of that Ordinance.

The Crown Lands (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 40 of 1960)

This Ordinance provides that all leases of Crown Land shall be by public auction, notice of which shall be given in the *Government Gazette*. It also makes it an offence for any person to dump sand, coral, earth and stones, etc., on any Crown Land without the authorisation of the Minister or of the lessee.

The Pas Géométriques (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 41 of 1960)

This Ordinance empowers the Governor to grant by private contract or public auction leases of small portions of Pas Géométriques for campement sites and other purposes. It also makes provision of the assessment of compensation in case Government resumes possession of lands planted by the lessee.

The Old Age Pensions (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 42 of 1960)

This Ordinance provides that inmates of charitable institutions which receive a grant from public funds shall not be eligible for an old age pension.

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The proclaimed Towns (Provisional Administration) Ordinance (No. 45 of 1960)

This Ordinance enables the Governor on the advice of the Minister to appoint, as soon as any area becomes a Proclaimed Town, a Board of Commissioners responsible for the administration of the Proclaimed Town pending the election of a Town Council to that Proclaimed Town.

The Sugar Industry Reserve Funds (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 49 of 1960)

This Ordinance makes certain amendments to the provisions governing the mortgages entered into in favour of the Board to secure repayment of loans made from the Fund.

The Road Traffic (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 50 of 1960)

This Ordinance provides that the number of taxi licences to be issued shall be proportionate to the needs of the general public. It also removes the presumption that passengers carried in a motor vehicle are being carried in consideration of separate or joint payments made by them.

The Public Holidays (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 51 of 1960)

This Ordinance provides that a number of the major Moslem and Hindoo festival days will be henceforth declared public holidays.

The Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 57 of 1960)

This Ordinance gives full effect to the provisions of Convention No. 16 of 1921 of the International Labour Organisation, *(a)* by requiring the medical examination of young persons employed at sea *(b)* by prohibiting the employment of females on underground work in mines.

The Nursing Council Ordinance (No. 59 of 1960)

This Ordinance makes provision for the setting up of a Nursing Council responsible for the good administration of and control over the exercise of the profession of Nurses and midwives.

The Firearms (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 60 of 1960)

This Ordinance ensures a more effective control over users of firearms by making it an offence not to declare to the Police the loss or theft of a firearm.

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The Public Health (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 62 of 1960)

This Ordinance provides for the compulsory registration of Nursing Homes and gives a discretion to the Director of Medical Services to refuse to register a Nursing Home if certain conditions are not satisfied.

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Chapter 9 : Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

The Laws of Mauritius are mainly based on the French Codes. The Civil Code, the Penal Code, the Code of Commerce and the Code of Civil Procedure, with such amendments as have been made thereto to suit local conditions, are still to a large extent in force in the Colony. There are also a great number of Ordinances.

The Bankruptcy Law, the Company Law, the Law of Evidence and the Law of Criminal Procedure are, however, mostly English, as well as is the whole system of the Labour Laws.

The highest judicial authority is the Supreme Court of the Colony of Mauritius and its Dependencies consisting of the Chief Justice and three Puisne Judges.

The Executive Officer of that Court is the Master and Registrar, who is also a Judge of the Bankruptcy Division of the Court.

The Supreme Court is a superior Court of record and has the same powers, authority and jurisdiction as the High Court of Justice in England. It exercises jurisdiction in divorce matters and Admiralty jurisdiction in virtue of the Colonial Courts of Admiralty Act, 1890, and is also a Court of Equity. It has powers of supervision over all the other Courts of the Colony and hears appeals from the Supreme Court of the Colony of Seychelles in civil matters.

Appeals lie to the Privy Council in certain cases against judgments of the Supreme Court.

The Judges of the Supreme Court preside over the Assize Court, the verdict being returned by a jury of nine men; the decision must be that of at least seven out of the nine members.

Since the 1st January, 1955, there has been a Court of Criminal Appeal. The Chief Justice and the Judges of the Supreme Court are the Judges of that Court which is constituted by three Judges. That Court hears appeals from persons convicted before the Supreme Court.

Since the 1st August, 1960, a Criminal Court, styled the Intermediate Criminal Court, has replaced the Bench of Magistrates to ensure more expeditious trials of important criminal cases. The new Criminal Court consists of three Senior Magistrates. It has jurisdiction to try criminal cases occurring all over the island and has power to impose sentences not exceeding 5 years' penal servitude.

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The District Magistrates of the Colony have jurisdiction in civil cases in which the subject matter does not exceed Rs 3,000 in value. They hold judicial enquiries in cases of fire or accidental death, and preliminary enquiries in cases triable by the Assize Court. In addition they deal with certain matters in Chambers.

The summary jurisdiction of a District Court in criminal matters is vested in a District Magistrate who deals with the less serious offences and is empowered to sentence an accused party to imprisonment with or without hard labour, for a term not exceeding one year, and to a fine not exceeding Rs 1,000.

In addition to the three Magistrates who sit on the Intermediate Criminal Court there are now 11 Magistrates of whom one administers justice in Rodrigues and is also Civil Commissioner for that Dependency.

A visiting Magistrate inspects once annually each of the Lesser Dependencies.

There is in addition an Industrial Court which is presided over by a Magistrate and which has exclusive jurisdiction—subject to appeal or review—in all labour disputes including workmen's compensation cases and matters arising out of factory legislation.

Administrative control of the Magistracy has, since 1945, been vested in the Chief Justice.

The majority of the civil cases brought before District Courts concern claims for money, or possession of tenement, or ownership of land.

On the criminal side, most of the cases, other than petty breaches of the law, relate to offences involving fraud, e.g. larceny, embezzlement, forgery, or swindling, or offences against the person, e.g., wounds and blows, indecent acts and assaults, or breaches of the road traffic laws.

During the year 1960, 19 cases were brought before the Court of Assizes. One case went before the Court of Criminal Appeal.

There were 520 civil cases entered before the Supreme Court as compared with 484 in 1959. 431 cases were entered before the Industrial Court as compared with 419 in 1959. 110 cases were entered before the Intermediate Criminal Court and 3,686 civil cases and 21,919 criminal cases were heard by the District Courts.

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POLICE

Functions

The functions of the Mauritius Police Force are prescribed by section 14 of the Police Ordinance (Cap. 312). They include preserving the public peace, the prevention and detection of crimes, misdemeanours and contraventions, the regulation of road traffic, the execution of warrants and summonses issued by the Courts, and the conduct of prosecutions in Court.

In addition to their primary task of maintaining law and order, the Police are responsible for the control of immigration and emigration, weights and measures, the issue of certain licences and the collection of the fees therefor, the supervision of licensed premises, and other extraneous duties.

Strength

The Police Force consists of a Commissioner of Police, and of such other Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Constables as the Legislature may authorise from time to time. The authorised establishment of the Force at the 31st December, 1960, was 35 Officers and 1,190 other ranks, inclusive of 31 Police Women and 2 Accounting Machine Operators; its actual strength was 33 officers and 1,147 other ranks including 27 Police Women employed on clerical work and 2 accounting machine operators.

Organization

The Commissioner of Police, assisted by the Deputy Commissioner of Police and other officers, has his Headquarters at Line Barracks in Port Louis.

The personnel of the Force is distributed between:

(a) Police Headquarters and the following Branches or Sections:

(i) The Forensic Science Laboratory
(ii) The Criminal Investigation Division
(iii) The Immigration and Passport Section
(iv) The Road Traffic Branch
(v) The Transport and Communications Section
(vi) The Training School and Reserve
(vii) The Band
(viii) The Railway Police
(ix) The Water Police
(x) The Pay and Quartermaster's Branch
(xi) The Rodrigues Police Detachment.

(b) Six Police Districts, controlling 48 stations and posts.

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The Forensic Science Laboratory

This important institution was set up in 1988 and maintains a high degree of professional competence. It is under the charge of the Police Medical Officer, who is assisted by a suitably trained staff. The Laboratory deals with the scientific examination of exhibits, and other aspects of crimes requiring scientific investigation.

The Criminal Investigation Division

This Division, which has its Headquarters in Port Louis and field staff attached to every District, is responsible for the investigation of serious crimes and cases of a special nature such as frauds and defalcations. It is also responsible for collating the statistics of crime for the whole Island. To the Central C.I.D. Headquarters are attached the Finger Print and *Modus Operandi Bureau,* the Central Records of Habitual Criminals, the Firearm Licences Section and the Bicycle Registration Section.

Finger Print and Modus Operandi Bureau. During the year, 202 scenes were visited by the staff and articles bearing finger prints were brought to the Finger Print Office by the District Police in 289 cases. Decipherable prints were found in 210 cases and 42 identifications were made. In three cases finger prints were the sole evidence available against the accused parties. In 8 cases documents bearing finger prints were referred to the Finger Print Office and in three cases identity was established. The finger print slips of 16,702 criminals (male and female) are on record. The " scene of crime " collection contains 221 photographs of unidentified prints found at scenes of crime. The palm print collection contains 2,292 prints. 619 criminals are on the Findex System.

Photographic Section. The photographic work done by the section during the year was of valuable assistance: 13,774 photographs supplied by the section included 62 crime scenes and 98 scenes of fatal or serious accidents. 609 criminals were photographed, and 6 dead bodies were photographed to assist identification. 406 photographs were also supplied for warrant cards issued to members of the Force and special constables.

Habitual Criminals. Supervision is maintained over habitual criminals and bad characters who are sentenced to police supervision by the Courts. There were 2,052 re-convicted male criminals in the Island, including 141 first offenders re-convicted during the year.

Firearms. Firearms are strictly controlled. The number of firearms licensed during the year was 5,868.

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Handwriting. In conjunction with the Forensic Science Laboratory the C.I.D. carry out the examination of documents and the identification of handwriting and typewriting in relation to cases of forgery and kindred offences.

Other Duties of the C.I.D. The Vice and Flying Squads of the C.I.D., among their other duties, help throughout the Island to enforce the laws relating to dangerous drugs, gambling, prostitution, illicit distillation, illegal transport and manufacture of rum and liquor, shop hours, distilleries, illegal slaughtering, private clubs, etc.

Dangerous Drugs. A total of 100 cases under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance were prosecuted by the Police during the year, of which 88 were for possession of gandia, 6 for cultivation of the plant, 2 for possession of prepared opium and 4 for possession of raw opium. 10,649 plants of gandia were uprooted and secured. 10,222 kgs of gandia, 50 grams of gandia seed, 8 kgs 61 grams of prepared opium and 9 kgs 681 grams of raw opium were secured.

The Immigration and Passport Section

During the year, 2,302 passports were issued, 412 renewed and 118 visaed. 49 emergency certificates of nationality, 7 collective passports and 16 Seaman's certificates of nationality and identity were issued and 71 forms of affidavit in lieu of passport were registered. The immigration staff attended 395 ships arriving in Port Louis and 270 aircraft at Plaisance Airport. 10,267 persons entered the Colony, including 295 immigrants and 10,661 left, including 115 emigrants.

Road Traffic Branch

The Road Traffic Branch is responsible for driving tests and the issue of drivers' licences, and the examination of motor vehicles for fitness and roadworthiness: 9,253 vehicles were tested, and 3,772 persons took driving tests, of whom 1,210 were successful.

The number of registered motor vehicles increased from 13,172 in 1959 to 14,466 at the end of 1960. There were 3,119 accidents as compared with 3,294 in 1959. The decrease in the number of accidents compared with the ever increasing volume of traffic on the roads results from the measures taken to ensure road safety and enforce the traffic laws including widening and surface repairing of roads, increased mobile and foot patrols, regular speed checks, education of drivers and pedestrians which included lectures to 73,117 school children, the maintaining of 76,700 feet of traffic lines, the setting up of more traffic signs, traffic islands and roundabouts.

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Transport and Communications Branch

The Transport and Communications Branch has under its control a Transport Unit and a radio-telephone network. The Transport Unit consists of:—

Motor Cycles	... ...	38
Land Rovers	... ...	19
Vans and Light Trucks	...	7 (including 1 mortuary van)
Prisoners' Vans	... ...	3
Lorries	... ...	8 (including a mobile canteen)
Motor cars	... ...	30 (including 24 W/T cars)
Cyclemasters	... ...	11

The radio-telephone network operates on VHF. At the Information or Control Room situated at Police Headquarters are one 15-watt and one 50-watt VHF transmitter-receivers: the first set controls directly the W/T cars operating in the town of Port Louis and the second set acts as a link with four other 50-watt VHF repeater stations situated in various localities giving an island wide radio coverage. Nineteen police stations have already been equipped with static sets and steps are being taken to equip four more.

All Police Stations and Branches are linked by telephone. P.B.Xs are installed at the six Police District Headquarters to enable rapid inter-communication between stations in Districts.

Training

Recruitment for the Force is carried out by the Police Service Commission.

The Training School, which is a residential institution, aims at training members of the Force on the same lines as in the United Kingdom and at fostering in them such qualities as tact, patience, tolerance, good humour, initiative, and ability to rely on their own judgment and resources. Recruit training includes adequate instruction in laws, police duties and procedure, general knowledge, first aid, elementary drill, riot drill, physical training, self defence, and swimming. The recruits undergo theoretical and practical training, including station and street duties. Lectures on medical jurisprudence, first aid and hygiene are delivered by the Police Medical Officer.

The Band

The Mauritius Police Band, which was first established in 1921, is a full military brass band made up of trained musicians. In 1947 a dance orchestra was formed which has since been in regular demand at balls and social gatherings and for stage productions. The band had 179 engagements, of which 47 were official, and its total earnings amounted to Rs 26,728.96 which accrued to the Police Band Fund.

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The Railway Police

An Inspector, a Sergeant and eight Constables are attached to the Railway Department as a special force to deal with offences committed on the Railway.

The Water Police

The Water Police are under the orders of the Superintendent of Police, Port Louis. The unit comprises one Sergeant and five Constables. It was equipped with a 15 H.P. motor launch and a wireless R/T set. The launch was badly damaged by cyclone *'Carol'* in February and had to be disposed of. A new one has been ordered from England. The Unit regularly patrols Port Louis Harbour area and maintains law and order and sees to the compliance with harbour regulations. Its duties include preventing persons from stowing away, assisting in the enforcement of immigration and quarantine laws, supervising the unloading of cattle, and preventing smuggling. During the year the Water Police attended 337 ships in harbour.

The Pay and Quartermaster's Branch

This Branch is divided into two Sections: the Pay Section and the Store Section, the latter under the special charge of the Assistant Pay and Quartermaster. The Pay Section is responsible for all the financial transactions and accounting of the Force and for the collection of inland revenue. The Store Section deals with indents for materials, the manufacture and issue of uniforms for all ranks, and the supply of stores and acoutrements to the Force.

The Rodrigues Police

The Rodrigues Police, under the orders of an Assistant Superintendent, is responsible for the maintenance of law and order in the dependency. The authorised establishment is one Officer and 30 other ranks. (Note: The island of Rodrigues is situated approximately 300 miles East of Mauritius).

The Special (Mobile) Force.

When the Mauritius Garrison was withdrawn on the 30th June, 1960, after 150 years in the Island, the Government established a Special (Mobile) Force at the former military barracks at Vacoas to replace the military for purposes of internal security.

The total authorised establishment of the Force is 5 officers and 246 other ranks. At the end of the year its actual strength was 4 officers and 191 other ranks. The two senior officers are styled Commandant and Deputy Commandant respectively.

The force is equipped with 4 lorries and 8 land Rovers.

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The personnel and transport strength of this Unit is not included in the other parts of this Report.

Special Constabulary

In accordance with section 47 of the Police Ordinance (Cap. 312) special constables may be appointed at any time. A start was made in 1955 with the enrolment and training of 100 special constables on the lines of the Special Constabulary in Great Britain. In 1960 the approved strength was 30 officers and 200 other ranks.

First Aid: St. John Ambulance Association

Courses of instruction in First Aid are given to members of the Force, the Railway Department, the Government Fire Services and pupils of the Royal College. All lectures are delivered by medical officers or qualified lay lecturers, with the assistance of instructors for practical demonstration in accordance with the regulations of the St. John Ambulance Overseas. Examinations were held during the year and 643 members of the Police Force are now qualified and hold the St. John's First Aid Certificate.

A Mauritius Police Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade is registered at the Overseas Headquarters in the U.K. Two other Divisions comprising members of the Government Fire Services and pupils of the Royal College respectively have been formed.

The Home Nursing Division, which was registered and approved on the 1st April, 1952, has a strength of 14.

Games, Recreation and Welfare

As much time as possible is devoted to the playing of games and to recreation generally. The Force possesses good football, basket ball, volley ball and hockey teams. Inter-district and friendly matches with local teams are frequently played. Boxing and swimming are steadily progressing.

The Officers, Inspectorate, N.C.O., Constables and Police Women each have their own mess and recreation rooms. A well-stocked canteen is open to all ranks of the Force. The Police Band contributes to official and demi-official functions in the various messes and institutions of the Force.

A library and reading room is open daily to members of the Force and to public subscribers. Books, reviews, and newspapers are regularly imported and are circulated throughout the Island and Rodrigues among members of the Force posted at out-stations in the country districts. The stock of English and French books in the library is 11,546.

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A Police Federation of all ranks from Chief Inspector to Constable advises on matters concerning the welfare and efficiency of its members, other than matters of discipline and promotions affecting individuals.

Honours and Awards

The Colonial Police Medal was awarded to one Superintendent of Police. The Colonial Police Long Service Medal was awarded to 24 members of the Force, the 1st clasp to 14 members and the 2nd clasp to five other members.

Offences

The number of offences reported to the Police in 1960 was as follows:—

Crimes	...	903
Misdemeanours	...	15,354
Contraventions ...	...	24,675
TOTAL	...	40,932

PRISONS

Functions of the Prisons Department

The principal duty of the Prisons Department is to maintain in safe custody the offenders delivered to its care. Subject to this, every possible effort is made by education, training in crafts, the issue of books and periodicals, the showing of educational films and the grant of privileges for good behaviour, to instill into the prisoners a sense of dignity, of self-respect and of duty towards the community and country such as will fit them to re-enter society as useful members on completion of their sentence.

There are four institutions in the colony dealing with persons received from the courts:

(a) Central Prison, Beau Bassin, which includes a Women's Section;

(b) Borstal Institution, Grand River North West;

(c) Industrial School, Beau Bassin;

(d) Richelieu Rehabilitation Centre.

Central Prison

Beau Bassin Prison consists of two three-storey blocks with a capacity to accommodate 600 prisoners in separate cells and a remand block having 6 large communal and 6 separate cells with a capacity to accommodate 50 prisoners. Some of the cells were enlarged in the course of the year. There are also workshops where the following trades are taught:—blacksmithing, tinsmithing, car-

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pentry (3 shops), tailoring, shoe-making, basketry, mat-making and book-binding. Prisoners also carry out a concrete block-making industry and the erection of new buildings. There are two hospital wards, together with stores and isolation wards.

The administrative headquarters of the service are situated in the Central Prison, at which all prisoners, both male and female, are received and discharged.

Within the men's prison at Beau Bassin there are now six yards laid out with flower beds and lawns where prisoners can associate for meals and leisure. On the 16th May, 1960, the system of classifying prisoners as ordinary recidivists, felon recidivists, etc. was dispensed with and replaced by another mode of classification which is more in accordance with modern accepted principles. The new classification is as follows:—

(a) Star Class
(b) Trainable Ordinaries
(c) Short Term Ordinaries
(d) Long Term Ordinaries
(e) Young Ordinaries and Young Prisoners
(f) Remands and Trials.

Prisoners are segregated according to classification in the different yards:—

No. 1 Yard—Long Term Ordinaries
No. 2 Yard—Short Term Ordinaries
No. 3 Yard—Stars
No. 4 Yard—Training Ordinaries
No. 5 Yard—Young Prisoners (17–21 years)
No. 6 Yard—Remand and Trials.

The classes are kept segregated as far as possible while at work. There is also in operation a grade system whereby a prisoner may by good behaviour pass successively from Probationary to 3rd, 2nd and 1st Grade, each grade having certain privileges, such as extra books, longer time in association and the playing of games.

Young prisoners now undergo recreational training under a trained instructor, morning and afternoon. There are also three voluntary recreational classes each evening. A qualified school teacher is attached to the Department and takes three voluntary educational classes each evening after prison labour has ceased.

A cinema show is given inside the prison twice a month, when films of topical and educational interest are shown. During week-

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ends the football pitch outside the prison is used by prisoners. About 200 prisoners including those who attend as spectators enjoy this privilge each week. Prisoners now have their own football team which plays against civilian teams on Wednesday evenings, when about 200 prisoner spectators are permitted to attend. Volley-ball pitches and a basket-ball pitch inside the prison walls are in use daily after labour.

A number of public-spirited men and women continued to act as unofficial visitors to the Female and Central Prison. Each has a panel of prisoners whom he visits frequently.

The women prisoners are housed in the women's prison which was opened in May, 1951. It adjoins the main prison but has a separate entrance. The grounds are attractively laid out with lawns, flowers and a vegetable plot. A large number of fruit trees and flowering shrubs has been planted. The inmates, who are few in number, are taught sewing and gardening. Mat-weaving is also taught by unofficial visitors.

Borstal Institution

The Borstal Institution which provides minimum security has accommodation for about 125 youths. It is run on the lines of a United Kingdom Borstal Institution.

The inmates are classified into " ordinary ", " probationary " and " special " grades; there is also a penal grade for boys under punishment. Apart from being classified according to statutory requirements, the inmates are grouped into four houses, named after prominent persons, viz., Remy Ollier, Labourdonnais, Newton and d'Epinay, with a view to fostering in them a spirit of competition. As far as possible the selection is made in such a way that the good element predominates in each house.

The lads receive daily instruction in carpentry, tin-smithing, tailoring, cooking, boot and shoe-making and gardening. Compulsory educational classes run at elementary levels with emphasis on English, French and Arithmetic are held under a qualified teacher. Physical training classes are also held daily.

Educational films are shown and explained to the lads twice monthly and outdoor games are organised each evening. Lads of the special and probationary grades go to the seaside three times a week to enjoy swimming. Football matches are played against outside teams.

During the year outings were organised at week ends. The Annual Camp however, could not be held, the site at Cap Malheureux having been destroyed by Cyclone Carol.

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A Borstal Visiting Committee meets monthly and, among other things, decides on questions of release.

Industrial School

The school has accommodation for about 200 boys and is run on the lines of an English Approved School. Boys up to the age of 18 years are catered for. The senior and junior boys are divided into houses named after prominent persons, but they are separately accommodated. A monthly "house" competition is run with points for conduct, cleanliness and upkeep of the house gardens.

All junior boys attend school daily for four hours under qualified teachers and receive primary school instruction up to the 5th standard. After the 5th Standard, boys who are still of school age attend an ordinary Government primary school. Senior boys who are illiterate attend school three evenings a week.

All boys do daily physical training under a qualified instructor and in addition take part in organised games. Films of educational value are shown and commented on by the Visual Education Officer and lectures on citizenship, forestry, electricity and animal husbandry have been given by experts who have offered their services to help the boys. Instruction in tinsmithing, brushmaking, shoemaking, carpentry, cooking and gardening is given to the boys in accordance with their aptitudes.

The school band is popular.

The Annual Camp could not be held this year, the site at Cap Malheureux having been destroyed during the passage of Cyclone *Carol.*

The school celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary on the 11th September, 1960, when it was opened to the public from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Some 3,000 visitors including His Excellency the Governor, Lady Deverell, the Minister of Health and Reform Institutions and other officials attended. There was a varied programme which included boxing, swimming, life saving, and a display of physical training performed by the inmates.

The Richelieu Rehabilitation Centre

A rehabilitation centre, designed for long and short term offenders, was opened on the first July, 1958. Thirty-five selected prisoners, under the control and supervision of one Assistant Superintendent, one Principal Officer and seven officers were transferred to the Centre and accommodated under canvas. During 1960 an average of 90 inmates served their sentence there and the way they responded to treatment in the open was most encouraging.

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Although sited in a very exposed position, the Centre sustained practically no damage during the passage of cyclones *Alix* and *Carol*. This is indeed most gratifying as all buildings were built by Prison labour. At the end of the year the office block, the stores block and the third dormitory had been completed and work on the school building had started.

Development of the agricultural land around the centre started during the year. By the end of the year about 3 acres of land were under cultivation and the Institution became self-supporting in vegetables, the surplus being sent to other reformative institutions. A fish pond was laid during the year and in the animal husbandry section, a goat shed has been erected and work on a pigsty started. Serious attention was given to the rabbit breeding scheme which had hitherto been carried out on an experimental basis.

The Centre is provided with a 12 H.P. " Lister " generating plant which supplies electricity to all the buildings.

The dormitories are fitted with canvas beds and beside tables.

The kitchen is provided with four Alfa Pressure Cookers, concrete swills and tables, modern washhand basins with taps and a provision store.

The dining room adjoins the kitchen and is based on the " Cafeteria " system as in U.K., and is fitted with tables and stools.

A concert was held at the end of the year.

Religious and educational facilities are afforded to the prisoners.

Prison Discipline

During 1960 six reports were dealt with by the Prison Board and 431 by the Commissioner and the Superintendent.

Earnings Scheme

The Earnings scheme is now applicable to all prisoners.

Rates of payments are as follows: —

Grade A	Rs 2.00	Earnings weekly
,, B	1.20	
,, C	.80	
,, D	.50	

No prisoner is upgraded until he has served six months of his sentence and promotion from one grade to another is made on the basis of good conduct and industry.

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Prisoners on the earnings scheme are authorised to spend part of their earnings on the Canteen.

The scheme which has proved to be a valuable incentive to production and an effective method of discipline, has considerably reduced trafficking in tobacco.

Remission

All prisoners sentenced to imprisonment, whether by one sentence or by consecutive sentences, for a period of not less than 30 days, can earn remission up to one-third of their sentence or sentences provided that the period of imprisonment is not reduced to less than 30 days.

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Chapter 10: Public Utilities and Public Works

Central Electricity Board

Electricity

The Central Electricity Board which in the last few years has made good progress in the development and improvement of electricity supplies throughout the Island, suffered a severe blow as a result of the two cyclones in January and February. With the exception of one small hydro station which was completely destroyed, power stations escaped major damage, but overhead transmission and distribution lines suffered severely in all parts of the Island. Many miles of overhead lines were carried away and hundreds of the older types of poles were bent or razed to the ground. The cost of repairs was estimated at Rs 6,000,000 including Rs 4,000,000 to be spent on complete reconstruction of parts of the urban areas where aged existing networks were badly hit. Despite the widespread damage, electricity was restored to 80 per cent of consumers within six weeks and to 100 per cent in 16 weeks.

The completion of the Magenta hydro electric scheme—scheduled for early 1960—was put back to the end of the year as a result of cyclone damage caused mainly to the pipe line. The station, which has a capacity of 1,000 kilowatts, started generating in December, 1960.

Another large hydro electric scheme which was under construction at Eau Bleue, suffered damage to the spill-way and further works will be necessary before the station can be commissioned.

Work on the transmission and distribution networks has, for most of the year, been concerned with repairing and clearing cyclone damage.

Nevertheless 62 miles of high and low voltage lines were erected and the number of consumers rose to 46,181 at the end of the year, representing an increase of .75 per cent over the previous year's figure. Units generated decreased by 1,211,581 to 54,659,847 a reduction of 2.2 per cent. This fall resulted directly from the cyclones. By the end of the year, however, sales of units had been restored to pre-cyclone level. The Board's concrete pole manufacturing plant produced 1296 poles of various sizes in 1960.

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The total installed capacity of all plant and units generated during the year were as follows:—

	Kw		*Units*	
Hydro :—				
Tamarind Falls	8,000		21,951,625	
Réduit	600		2,653,917	
Magenta	940		961,800	
Cascade Cécile*	310		99,400	
La Ferme	1,200		2,748,110	
Riche-en-Eau	1,700		577,800	
Bois Chéri	100		150,640	
		12,850		29,143,292
Thermal-C.E.B. :—				
St. Louis	10,210		20,513,300	
Sack Factory	550		27,140	
		10,760		20,540,440
Thermal-Sugar Estates :—				
St. Antoine	1,200		526,095	
F.U.E.L.	4,000		2,355,200	
Savannah	1,500		1,683,420	
Medine	1,500		411,400	
		8,200		4,976,115
TOTAL ...		31,810		54,659,847

WATER SUPPLIES

Domestic Water Supplies

The principal sources of Domestic Water Supplies are Mare-aux-Vacoas, Grand River North West, Piton du Milieu, La Nicolière and Rivière des Galets.

The Mare-aux-Vacoas Water Supply is derived from a storage reservoir of a present capacity of 597 million cubic feet which is being increased to 975 million cubic feet by raising of the dam. The reservoir is situated at an elevation of 1850 feet above sea level and serves about half the population of the island in the districts of Plaines Wilhems, Moka, Black River, Port Louis and the upper parts of Grand Port and Savanne. Prior to distribution the water is filtered through slow sand filters at an elevation of 1640 feet above sea level and chlorinated, the supply to the higher parts of Plaines Wilhems and Grand Port—Savanne being pumped partly by hydraulic power and partly by electric power. The quantity supplied to domestic consumption for the year ending 30th June, 1960, averaged 11,200,000 gallons per day.

The Grand River North West water supply is derived from the river of that name at an elevation of about 250 feet above sea level. The supply amounts to 5,000,000 gallons per day. It is managed by the Municipality of Port Louis and serves exclusively the town of Port Louis with a population of about 90,000. The water is filtered and chlorinated before use. Works are in progress to increase the supply to 8,000,000 gallons.

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The Piton du Milieu Water Supply is derived from a storage reservoir of 110 million cubic feet, situated at an elevation of 1,435 feet above sea level and serves a population of about 150,000 inhabitants in the districts of Pamplemousses, Rivière du Rempart, Flacq, Moka and the lower parts of Grand Port—Savanne. The water is filtered through rapid sand filters at an elevation of 1,385 feet having a capacity of 4,000,000 gallons per day. The water is chlorinated after filtration.

The Piton du Milieu supply is supplemented in the districts of Pamplemousses and Rivière du Rempart by the La Nicolière Water Supply which provides 1,000,000 gallons per day derived from springs above La Nicolière at an elevation of 1,040 feet. The water which is at present supplied in its raw condition is to be filtered through rapid sand filters and chlorinated. The filters are due to be put in operation early in 1961. In the district of Savanne the Piton du Milieu supply is supplemented by the Rivière des Galets water supply which is derived from the River des Galets at an elevation of 825 feet and provides 400,000 gallons per day. The water is supplied at present in its raw condition but is to be filtered and chlorinated. The filters of the slow sand type are due to be put in operation early in 1961.

Irrigation

Irrigation is carried out in the Black River District from La Ferme reservoir and Magenta Canal Systems and in the Districts of Pamplemousses and Rivière du Rempart from La Nicolière reservoir.

La Ferme reservoir at an elevation of 450 feet above sea level, has a capacity of 417 million cubic feet and serves to irrigate at present 1,500 acres. Additional supplies are being derived from Mare-aux-Vacoas, Mare Longue and Tamarind Falls reservoirs by means of the Magenta Canal (completed in 1954) which irrigates a further 2,500 acres.

La Nicolière reservoir, at an elevation of 800 feet above sea level, has a capacity of 200 million cubic feet and serves to irrigate about 1,000 acres of land. The reservoir is linked to Midlands by the Midlands—La Nicolière Feeder Canal 17 miles long.

Hydro-Electric Power

Water for hydro-electric purposes is supplied from three reservoirs:

(a) the Mare-aux-Vacoas reservoir mentioned above;

(b) the Mare Longue reservoir of a storage capacity of 200 million cubic feet at an elevation of 1,900 feet above sea level;

* Destroyed by cyclone

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(c) the Tamarind Falls reservoir of a storage capacity of 72 million cubic feet at an elevation of 1,625 feet above sea level.

The three reservoirs are situated in the catchment area of the Tamarind river and supply water to a power station situated at 960 feet below the Taramind Falls reservoir. After going through this power station, water passes through the Magenta power station 150 feet lower down and thence into Magenta Canal for irrigation purposes in the Black River district.

Work on the hydro-electric project at Eau Bleue was started early in 1955 and continued in 1960. The scheme provides for the construction of an earth dam of approximately 8.65 million cubic feet and the storage of 220 million cubic feet of water. The site of the reservoir is on River Eau Bleue near Midlands. A fall of 600 feet is available by cutting through a ridge separating the reservoir site from Le Val where the power station is situated. The Reservoir and Power Station were completed in 1960 and will be put into operation early in 1961 as soon as summer rains start.

The power station will have an output capacity of about 5 million KWH per annum making use of the flow of River Eau Bleue alone. A Feeder Canal from Grand River South East to Eau Bleue Reservoir was completed in 1960 and the power output may be increased to 8 million KWH per annum. The total output can further be increased to 13 million units by diverting other rivers into the reservoir.

Public Works

Under the general control of the Minister of Works the Public Works and Surveys Department is responsible for:

(a) the maintenance and/or construction of (i) all Government works in connection with water supplies, roads, bridges, cemeteries, quays and machinery at the Harbour, (ii) Military Works on behalf of the Military Authorities and (iii) Government buildings costing not more than Rs 10,000;

(b) the management of all Crown lands and lands forming part of the ' domaine public ', and the acquisition of land for public purposes;

(c) the leasing of sand quarries;

(d) the valuation and the inspection of all lands pledged to Government, the assessment of damage caused by fire to canefields or other properties and the assessment of compensation for property acquired:

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(e) advice to Government on public works and all questions relating to the other functions of the Department.

The supply of materials from overseas was regular during the year and good progress was made in the development of the water works undertaken by the Department.

Maintenance work was also carried out without any difficulty.

Much attention was given to the maintenance and improvement of roads.

METEOROLOGY

The Meteorological Department provides for all climatological and weather services for the Colony and for international requirements. Six main reporting stations regularly provide full observations from each of the four scattered groups of islands forming the Dependencies and from the airfield and the central plateaux in Mauritius. These observations are broadcast seven times daily to Africa, Asia and Australia. About 4,000 weather reports are collected each year from ships at sea.

The headquarters at Vacoas provides forecasting services for international air and sea routes across the south Indian Ocean and for local purposes. This office also carries out the important function of a hurricane warning centre for a large part of the surrounding ocean and islands. The daily weather maps cover, as far as possible, the whole of the Indian Ocean and surrounding continents between 15° N and 50° S. Administration, investigations and research are also centred at Vacoas.

In addition to the main reporting stations the Department maintains, or co-operates with other local authorities in maintaining, three minor reporting stations at Port Louis Harbour, Flat Island, and Peros Banhos Island, 250 rainfall stations, twenty sunshine recorders and six local recording anemometers to obtain records mainly required for local purposes. Although numerous and varied enquiries from local and overseas authorities were dealt with, the main emphasis in climatology has continued to be laid upon the requirements of agriculture, hydrology and constructional engineering.

Mauritius is a Member of the World Meteorological Organisation and also plays its part in other international organizations, such as the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy and the International Civil Aviation Organization.

THE GRANARY

The Granary, which was completed in 1933, is a two-storeyed building of ferro-concrete and brick and covers an area of $1\frac{1}{8}$ acres.

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It adjoins a Lighter Quay, 389 feet long, served by six electrically-operated hoists which lift bagged grain from lighters at the quay to the top floor of the building, which is operated as a Customs transit shed. From the top floor grain is delivered by gravity chutes to the first and ground floors which are divided into twelve and six separate stores respectively. Other gravity chutes connect the first floor with the delivery yard at the rear of the building.

The Granary Ordinance (Cap. 64) prescribes that all grain (which includes rice, dholl, lentils, gram, peas and other cereal which may be declared grain for that purpose by Proclamation), shall be discharged from ships to lighters and conveyed to the Granary for storage. The Ordinance limits the amount of grain which may be stored elsewhere than at the Granary.

The building was designed and erected with the object of protecting grain against contamination and destruction by pests, particularly rodents, and all entrances, exits and personnel lifts are operated with this in view.

All grain is stored in the Granary in bags: there is no bulk storage. Pest infestation is prevented as far as possible by spraying insecticide by means of an apparatus provided for that purpose. Measures against white ants and termites are carried out by a local firm under contract and stores are regularly fumigated by the Health Department.

After allowing for passages necessary for the effective use of the disinfecting apparatus, storage capacity is sufficient for approximately 450,000 bags of grain.

The Granary Department, which is responsible for the administration and maintenance of the building, is under the control of the Granary Superintendent who is also the Comptroller of Customs. Handling and stacking of grain is carried out by contract labour. During the year 1959–60, 65,238 tons of rice and 5,127 tons of other grain were handled.

Government Fire Services

The functions of the Fire Services are prescribed in section 4 of the Fire Services Ordinance (No. 56 of 1953) and consist in taking all available measures with a view to extinguishing fires and to protecting life and property in case of fires in any area except the District and Town of Port Louis, where the Municipal Council is the responsible authority.

The Department comprises an administrative office in Port Louis and six fire stations at Curepipe, Rose Hill, Quatre Bornes, Rivière des Anguilles, Mahébourg and Piton. On the 31st December,

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1960, the staff was composed of 1 Controller (part time), 1 Office Supervisor, 1 Chief Officer, 1 Deputy Chief Officer, 2 Station Officers, 19 Sub-Officers, 21 Leading Firemen, 137 Firemen and a clerical staff of five.

The mobile appliances with which the various fire stations were equipped included 9 fire engines, 4 large and 14 small trailer pumps, 6 water lorries, 1 water trailer, 2 cars, 1 lorry, 2 foam vans, 6 hose carriers, 1 Land Rover, 1 " Scooter " motor cycle and 1 bicycle.

The number of fire calls attended to was 301, compared with 340 in the previous year. The loss caused by fire, excluding the Port Louis municipal area, was estimated at Rs 421,594 compared with Rs 1,407,137 in 1959. Appliances on fire calls covered 7,388 vehicle miles.

Within the area covered by the Service there were at the end of the year 1,022 fire hydrants, including 38 new hydrants installed during the year.

The number of requests for the attendance of firemen during performances of stage plays was 89 and the attendance fees collected during the year amounted to Rs 1,468.

In accordance with Regulation 4(2) of the Inflammable Liquids and Substances Regulations (Government Notice No. 179 of 1953) 32 certificates were issued by the Controller of Fire Services to the effect that the premises on which filling stations would operate are adequately protected against fire.

Fire appliances in nearly all Government buildings and cinema halls were tested.

Thirty-two requests for pumping on sugar estates and private premises were attended to and fees for these attendances amounted to Rs 1,168.04.

The average cost per man in the Service during the year was Rs 4,894 while the cost of the Service per head of population (excluding the inhabitants of Port Louis) was Rs 1.74. The total revenue collected in 1959–60 was Rs 51,474.

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Chapter 11 : Communications

Shipping

Port Louis, the capital of the Island, is also the only port. Ten ocean-going and four small vessels can be accommodated at any one time.

Vessels are normally moored at buoys in the harbour, though two quays are available, one of 492 feet and able to take a vessel of 30 feet draft and one of 390 feet for vessels of drafts up to 17 feet. Both coal and oil bunkers are available in limited quantities; there is a good supply of fresh water.

Regular cargo services are provided from the United Kingdom by the British and Commonwealth Shipping Company Limited, and from Continental and French Mediterranean ports by the French companies *Messageries Maritimes* and *Nouvelle Compagnie Havraise Peninsulaire*. The Scinda Steamship Co. operates a cargo service from Bombay to Mauritius and West Africa.

The Dutch *Royal Interocean Line* vessels call at Port Louis regularly on the Far East, South Africa and South America service, thereby providing a regular passenger and cargo service to and from the Far East and South Africa. Passengers wishing to travel to the United Kingdom usually tranship from the Dutch vessels to the Union Castle Line at Durban.

A total of 415 vessels entered Port Louis harbour during the year with a total net registered tonnage of 1,300,618 tons. Of these 415 vessels, 133 were of British registry, 69 French, 68 Dutch, 24 Norwegian, 3 Swedish, 2 United States, 1 Italian, 2 Panamanian, 2 Liberian, 42 Japanese, 10 Indian, 22 German, 6 Danish, 8 Greek, 10 Israeli, 1 Yugoslav, 1 Irish, 4 Ethiopian, 4 U.S.S.R. and 3 from the Republic of Madagascar.

There are four small vessels on the local register. Three of them are employed on services to the dependencies of Mauritius and the fourth, M.V. *"Mauritius"*, a 1,157 NRT cargo and passenger liner, is employed on runs to the dependencies, Madagascar, South and East Africa and Australia. These vessels have a combined net registered tonnage of 1,808.

During the year 3,817 passengers entered the Colony by sea and 4,207 left the Island.

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Civil Aviation

There is only one airport in Mauritius. It is situated at Plaisance, in the south-east of the Island about three miles from the coast, and is managed by the Civil Aviation Department of the Mauritius Government.

Air France have scheduled *Starliner* services twice weekly between Paris and Mauritius *via* Nairobi, Madagascar and Réunion. Qantas Empire Airways provide a fortnightly scheduled *Super Constellation* service between Sydney and Johannesburg via Melbourne, Perth, Cocos Islands and Mauritius and from South Africa to Australia via the same route. South African Airways operate a fortnightly scheduled service between Johannesburg and Perth along the same route with DC7B, alternating with the Qantas flights.

No aircraft is based in Mauritius and no internal services exist.

The meteorological services at the airport are under the control of the Director of Observatory, who is responsible for providing forecasts and all other meteorological information required; meteorological observers are stationed at the airport.

Apart from normal air-ground communication services, daily point-to-point schedules were maintained throughout 1960 with East Africa (Nairobi), Madagascar, South Africa, Réunion and Cocos Islands.

The total number of landings and take-offs at Plaisance airport during the year amounted to 569. The number of incoming and outgoing passengers was 12,837 as compared with 13,340 during 1959. These figures exclude passengers in transit. Incoming and outgoing freight amounted to 94,742 kilos and mails carried to 54,455 kilos.

The total amount of aviation spirit and oil used for refuelling aircraft amounted to 589,404 Imperial gallons and 5,751 Imperial gallons respectively.

Railways

The public railway system of Mauritius (4′–8½″ gauge) is operated by the Government. The railway network has 82 miles of line varying between sea level and an altitude of 1,800 feet. By law heavy goods (manufactured sugar, fertilizers, coal and gunny bags) must be transported by Government. The last of the regular passenger services was run on the 31st March, 1956.

The deficit on the working of the railways amounted to Rs 390,615 for the financial year 1959–60.

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Statistics for the financial year ended the 30th June, 1960, are as follows:

Length of line open to traffic	Miles	82
Goods Traffic :		
Sugar	Tons	484,682
Sugar Canes	Tons	1,723
General Merchandise	Tons	50,195
Goods Traffic Receipts :		
Sugar	Rs	3,759,898
Sugar Cane	Rs	2,327
General Merchandise	Rs	251,159
Train Mileage	Train Miles	118,647
Receipts per Train Mile	Rs	36,59
Expenditure per Train Mile	Rs	41,71
Road Motor Service:		
Total Passenger Vehicle Miles	...Vehicle Miles	182,343
Passengers carried	Number	452,733
Passenger Receipts	Rs	118,386
Parcels carried	Number	439
Parcels receipts	Rs	132
Goods Traffic:		
Sugar	Tons	35,073
General Merchandise	Tons	15,982
Goods Receipts :		
Sugar	Rs	220,349
General Merchandise	Rs	103,042
Number of vehicles in service:		
10 lorries and 8 trailers		
1 dual purpose vehicle		
2 buses		

ROADS

Mauritius is provided with an extensive road system, consisting of some 744.5 miles of public main and branch roads, most of which are suitable for motor traffic. All the roads are metalled and about 438.5 miles are bitumen coated. Practically all the main roads are open to heavy motor vehicles, but owing to the rapid development of road traffic during the past twenty years many of the roads are too narrow for moderately fast transport to operate in safety. There are also some blind corners and very populous villages to travel through, while the roads are further congested by slow moving transport and the large public transport vehicles.

The maintenance of proclaimed main and branch roads continued in the normal manner and improvements were carried out to some of the existing tarred surfaces. An additional 14.5 miles of roads was asphalted.

The Public Works Department is responsible for the maintenance of proclaimed roads and District Councils are responsible for the maintenance of unproclaimed roads.

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Road Transport

There were 14,466 motor vehicles registered in the Island in 1960 as compared with 13,291 in 1959, classified as:—

	Private Ownership	*Government Ownership*
Private and Taxi Cars ...	8,923	42
Lorries	2,248	163
Buses	536	12
Cycles	1,092	42
Tractors	223	98
Jeeps	108	60
Vans	799	70
3-Wheelers	21	—
Road Rollers	15	11
Foam Tenders	—	3
	13,965	501

The public bus fleets had increased to a total of 443 vehicles in use at the end of 1960. An average of 116,000 passengers travelled daily by bus.

There were 2,804 goods vehicles in use in 1960—an increase of 145 over the preceding year's figure. They are used mainly in connexion with sugar industry for conveying cane to the factories and other materials to sugar estates.

Vehicle Licensing

The annual licence duties payable in respect of motor vehicles are as follows:

	Rs
(a) Motor cycles, per H.P.	6
(b) Private cars, per H.P.	8
(c) (i) Taxis not exceeding 10 H.P.	108
(ii) For every additional H.P.	8
(d) (i) Motor buses not more than 10 H.P. and having a seating capacity for not more than 20 passengers	512
(ii) For every additional H.P.	8
(e) (i) Private Motor Lorries not exceeding 10 H.P. ...	200
(ii) Public Carriers not exceeding 10 H.P.	300
(iii) For every additional H.P.	8
(iv) Per metric ton of maximum gross weight or fraction thereof	40

Public Service and goods vehicles are licensed quarterly at proportional rates. Payment of licence duty in respect of motor cycles and private cars may be effected quarterly or yearly at the owners' option.

Visitors' licences, at the following rates, are payable in respect of privately owned motor cars and motor cycles belonging to persons on temporary visits not exceeding three months to the Colony.

Private cars	Rs 10 per month irrespective of H.P
Motor cycles	Rs 2 per month irrespective of H.P

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No licence fee is charged on a private car or motor cycle for a short stay in the Colony not exceeding one week.

Posts and Telegraphs

The Posts and Telegraphs Department is responsible for the postal and telegraph services of the Colony and operates the Post Office Savings Bank. It also acts as an agent for a number of Government departments in so far as the collection of certain revenue and the making of certain payments are concerned. The Money Order Service is available for nearly all parts of the world, and the British Postal Order Service for most Commonwealth countries.

The main Post Office is in Port Louis. There are besides 32 post offices and 43 postal agencies spread throughout the Island and all classes of postal and telegraph business are transacted. Postal facilities are also available in Rodrigues.

Air mail connection with all parts of the world is maintained by means of the services operated by *Air France, Qantas Empire Airways* and *South African Airways*.

Air mail postage rates are charged on weight units of 5 grammes. The air mail postage rate to Europe and to India and Pakistan, the principal destinations of the Colony's outward correspondence, is 60 cents for 5 grammes. The Aerogramme or Air Letter Service operates to all destinations at the uniform rate of 35 cents.

The number of postal items handled during 1960 was approximately as follows:

Air mail	3,712,300
Overseas surface mail	959,370
Inland mail	6,292,560

Mauitius is linked to the rest of the world by cables and by radio installations (including radiotelephones with most parts of the world) which are operated and maintained by Cable and Wireless Limited. The Company has an office, a cable station and a radio station in Port Louis, and a cable station and a radio installation in Rodrigues. The major part of the overseas telegraph traffic concerns Port Louis and outward and inward telegrams from or for the Capital are accepted, for transmission or delivery, direct by Cable and Wireless Limited. Elsewhere, overseas telegrams are received at post offices and transmitted over land lines operated by the Posts and Telegraphs Department to the General Post Office in Port Louis, for outward transmission by Cable and Wireless; inward telegrams received by Cable and Wireless Limited are similarly transmitted by the General Post Office over the land lines to post offices for delivery.

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There are 210 miles of inland telegraph lines and the number of inland telegrams handled during 1960 was 8,510 as compared with 13,518 during 1959.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The functions of the Telecommunications Department may be briefly summarised as follows:

(a) the operation of the public telephone system and internal communication systems of Government Departments;

(b) the maintenance of the public telegraph service of the Posts and Telegraphs Department and the telegraph systems of the Meteorological Department and the Mauritius Broadcasting Service;

(c) the enforcement of the provisions of the Radio-Communications Ordinance (Laws of Mauritius, Cap. 96) including the issue of radio licences and the collection of licence fees;

(d) the operation of the ship-to-shore radiotelegraph service and the reception and transmission of radiotelegraph traffic at the Meteorological Department Headquarters;

(e) the installation and maintenance of electric lighting and power services in Government workshops, offices and quarters;

(f) the installation and maintenance of electro-medical apparatus and of electric lighting and power services in Government hospitals;

(g) the installation and maintenance of the telephone, telegraph and electrical services of the Railway Department.

The Island is served by 15 telephone exchanges located at the following centres:—

Manual Exchanges	: Port Louis, Curepipe, Rose Hill and Vacoas.
Automatic Exchanges:	Rose Belle, Souillac, Mahébourg, Rivière des Anguilles, Centre de Flacq, Pamplemousses, Moka, Quartier Militaire, Montagne Longue, Nouvelle France and Pointe aux Sables.

At the close of the year there were 6,047 exchange lines and 8,989 telephone stations in service. The number of effective telephone calls handled during 1960 amounted to 5,754,012 compared with 7,220,391 during 1959.

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The radiotelegraph station at Vacoas maintains a 24-hour watch on the international maritime distress frequency and provides communication with ships within a radius of 800 miles from Mauritius. The station handled 7,689 radiotelegrams during 1960 compared with 9,156 during 1959.

Telecommunications and electrical plant suffered considerable damage from cyclones *Alix* and *Carol*. The damage is reflected in the figures given above. *Alix* isolated 8 exchanges and put 85 per cent of the subscribers' lines out of order. Except for a few long and isolated lines, restoration had been completed by the time *Carol* struck.

Carol isolated or damaged 13 out of the 15 exchanges and on the 29th February less than 1 per cent of the subscribers' lines were in service. The last exchange was brought back into commission in July and it was the end of the year before all external lines had been restored.

As almost the whole of the year was devoted to reconstruction work there was little progress with the development programme except for the laying of the Port Louis — Rivière du Rempart trunk cable. Work was suspended after *Alix* but when *Carol* completely destroyed the main overhead trunk route to the North, cable laying was preferred to rebuilding the whole of the route, most of which would have been rendered redundant by the cable.

The new building for the Rose Hill automatic exchange was almost completed by the end of the year and that for Port Louis was more than half completed. A small building for a rural automatic exchange has been erected at L'Escalier. Negotiations for exchange sites at Chemin Grenier, Rivière Dragon, and Bel Air are still in progress.

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Chapter 12: Central Information Office, Information and Press

The Press

The history of the press in Mauritius has been traced as far back as 1773. *Le Cernéen*, one of the existing daily newspapers has had an uninterrupted existence of more than 126 years and *Le Mauricien*, another daily, has been published regularly for the past 51 years. The languages in which the newspapers are published are French, English, Hindi, Urdu, Tamil and Chinese.

The following is a list of newspapers published in Mauritius:—

Daily	Weekly
Le Cernéen	*La Vie Catholique*
Le Mauricien	*Aryoday*
Advance	*J.O. et Tribune Ouvrière*
Action	*L'Epée*
China Times	*Mauritius Times*
Chinese Daily News	*Carrefour*
Central Daily News	
New Chinese Commercial Paper	
Chinese National Paper	

Twice Weekly	Fortnightly
Janata	*Zamana*
Samajvad	*Le Progrès Islamique*
	La Voix de L'Islam
	The Minaret
	Mazdur
	The Lark
	Nav Jeewan

Monthly

Union
Trait d'Union
The Lantern

Information Services

The functions of the Central Information Office are:—

(a) to establish and maintain relations of confidence and mutual understanding with all sections of the press;

(b) to ensure a flow of accurate information from the Government to the public;

(c) to impress upon the public the following themes:—

(i) the facts of the situation in which Mauritius finds itself (as summarised in the Luce Report: A time for Decision) and the consequences which will flow if it is not remedied;

(ii) the strategy and plans of the Government in dealing with the situation;

(iii) the need to abolish economic waste;

(iv) the need for increased food production;

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576 press notices, as compared with 720 in 1959, were paid for from the " Publicity Vote " of the office. In addition 615 communiqués of public interest, many of which were translated by the office, were published free of charge by the local press, as against 558 in 1959. The total number of 1,191 communiqués thus released showed a decrease of 87 on the figure for the previous year.

The public, especially those in the rural regions, were reached, apart from the press, by the medium of the broadcasting services through the weekly serial programmes known as " The Monday Night Topic ". These programmes, prepared in French and Hindi by the office, continued to provide listeners with comments on topical news embracing a very wide range of subjects. They were supplemented by news items on Government activities and other local news supplied daily to the Mauritius Broadcasting Service for broadcast after the 7 o'clock news. Besides these regular features, five talks on the work of the Legislative Council and two talks on the Public Assistance Department were given for the benefit mainly of listeners in the secondary schools. This new series entitled " The World We Live In " had to be discontinued as a result of programme difficulties at the Mauritius Broadcasting Service.

On the other hand, the spoken word continued to be used in those rural regions where the press and the radio have either not yet found their way or have made only a limited impact. A survey of baitkas, madressas, youth clubs and Cooperative Credit Societies was carried out by the Department and fruitful contacts were established with the leaders of these organisations. A series of talks, covering a wide range of topics such as home economics, the national budget, the Five-Year Plan, overpopulation and the Government's housing scheme, were given to an attentive audience.

To tighten up these contacts and to foster more interest in the work of the Central Information Office, a Public Relations Conference was organised by the department at one of the sea-side resorts during the year. The gathering, made up of a representative cross-section of the Mauritian community, was addressed by the Director.

The Mobile Cinema Units continued to play an important part in getting the rural population interested in the work of the Government. The Units have become an effective vehicle for the dissemination of information in out-of-the-way places to which news of Government activities seldom permeated. Besides commenting on the films, mostly chosen for their topicality, the commentators address the audience on various aspects of the Government pro-

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gramme and on current campaigns undertaken by the office. The Units also helped with post-cyclone information of various kinds and with the distribution of handbills, posters and publications. The Units gave in all 760 shows during the year to an estimated audience of 532,000, i.e. to an average of 700 people at every show.

As a result of the two cyclones which badly hit the island on the 19th January and on the 28th February, the Office had to meet the eager demand for news at a time when the Mauritius Broadcasting Service was temporarily off the air and the press was not functioning. In the immediate cyclone aftermath, special cyclone issues of *Maurice Magazine* were produced in French and Hindi and distributed, with the help of the Police Department, to the news-starved population, especially to those in the refugee centres and the rural areas. These printed issues were supplemented by cyclostyled handbills containing information about food vouchers, the food situation, building materials available, etc. Appeals for self-help and voluntary service by various Ministries were likewise printed and put up throughout the island. Posters were also designed by the office, projecting, *inter alia*, the activities of the Cyclone Sub-Committee of the Executive Council and giving information about the food situation, the distribution of foodstuffs and building materials, the anti-typhoid vaccination, registration of the homeless, the allocation of shelters, the granting of help (financial and in kind) by Britain and other countries and various steps taken by the Government to prevent profiteering, as well as other remedial measures to like effect.

The local press and the Mauritius Broadcasting Service were supplied with information, when they resumed their normal activities. The overseas, especially the United Kingdom, press and various international agencies likely to help were supplied with news of the disaster by cable. Direct action was also initiated by the office at various levels to inspire appeals for help on behalf of Cyclone victims in many foreign newspapers and periodicals and through Reuter's news agencies.

The office shot a 15-minute 16 mm. film on the damages sustained by the island, as a result of Cyclone *' Carol '*. The film was flown to the United Kingdom where it helped to raise donations on behalf of cyclone victims in Mauritius. The Office also helped in supplying materials to a producer of Europe No. 1 broadcasting services who came to this country shortly after *' Carol '* and whose appeal programme eventually raised, from Europe No. 1 listeners,

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donations amounting to Fcs. 5,800,000 (old) or about Rs 54,922.50 in Mauritian currency, after deduction of the expenses incurred by the organisers.

The Office was also tasked with such major assignments as giving full coverage to the visit of distinguished personalities from abroad, some of whom came in the wake of the cyclones to see for themselves the extent of the damages done. The following functions were assigned to the Office in connection with the visit of the Right Honourable Iain Macleod, M.P., Secretary of State for the Colonies, who was an honoured guest of the Colony from the 9th to the 12th April:—

(a) arrangements for a press conference by the Colonial Secretary before the Secretary of State's visit at which an outline of the programme was given;

(b) arrangements for a press conference held at Government House, Le Reduit, by the Secretary of State on the 11th April;

(c) full coverage of Mr. Macleod's activities for release to the local and overseas press, including the quick despatch of photographs to the Colonial Office for distribution to the Central Office of Information and to the London press.

The Office was likewise kept very busy when Professor Titmuss and the members of his Mission of Enquiry into Social Security in Mauritius visited the Colony from the 3rd to the 26th March. Besides providing the usual advance publicity, the staff prepared communiqués about the submission of evidence to the Mission and about the latter's various sittings, for prompt despatch to the press and broadcasting services.

Full publicity was also given to the Economic Survey Mission led by Professor Meade. Communiques on the Mission's various activities and on the submission of memoranda and personal evidence were prepared and conveyed to the press and the M.B.S. A poster was also produced, containing infomation about how to give evidence and about the various time limits for the submission of memoranda.

In addition to these activities, the office kept the ball rolling for certain public utility campaigns initiated the year before such as the ' Save Water ' and the ' Prevention of Road Accidents' Campaigns and helped to get new ones under way such as the ' Enriched Salt Campaign ' and the ' Anti-Spitting Campaign '. New life was injected into the ' Save Water ' campaign by the showing *urbi et orbi* of a film entitled " Pipe-line to the Clouds " graciously placed at the disposal of the Government of Mauritius

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by the Phœnix Camp Minerals Co. Ltd. It was decided to make the Road Safety Campaign more effective by the introduction of new members, such as the representatives of five insurance companies, on the Road Safety Committee which, as a result of the enlarged membership, was re-named " The Society for the Prevention of Accidents ".

The " Grow your own Food Campaign " was given new impetus, after the two cyclones, by talks delivered on the theme by a senior officer of the Department at various Village Councils. In July, it was decided to hold an essay competition on " Food and Population " open to all boys and girls in the Secondary Schools as well as to all teachers of Hindi in the primary schools.

As part of its routine work, the office went on preparing, during the year, a weekly summary of leading press articles and other important items of news for the Colonial Office. It continued also to be the responsibility of the Office to prepare, for the benefit of Mauritian Students in the U.K., A MONTHLY NEWS BULLETIN, 90 copies of which are sent to the Mauritius Students Unit in London for distribution. Ministries and other Government departments made increased use of the translation facilities available at the office.

Thirteen press conferences were convened by the office to enable Ministers or distinguished visitors from abroad to meet representative journalists and to give the public, through the Press, an account of some of the most important aspects of their work or of the purpose of their visit to Mauritius. These Press conferences ranged from full dress ones given by the Secretary of State and Ministers back from important missions abroad to less formal ones like those given by Ministers to invite the co-operation of journalists in their public utility campaigns.

Besides the four issues of *' Maurice Magazine '* — two of which were ordinary features and two special cyclone issues — four distinct publications were produced during the year under review. The talk given by Professor James Meade, Chairman of the Economic Mission and entitled " An Analysis of Some Economic Aspects of Mauritius ", was published by this office in English and French and circulated to all institutions interested in local economics and industry.

Two correlated pamphlets were published on the Government Housing Scheme to inform the public about the nature of the plan as well as to bring to their knowledge the *modus operandi* for registration and applications for loans.

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The fourth publication for which the office was responsible, as regards lay-out and printing, was Mr. Robert Newton's scholarly booklet on the history and development of "*Le Réduit*" throughout the French and English periods of colonization down to the present day.

The Office had to toe the line to the general austerity programme of the Government after the cyclones and '*Maurice Magazine*' which was found to have become too costly for production as a regular monthly, was replaced, during most of the year, by a weekly cyclostyled broadsheet, in French and Hindi.

All these local publications, as well as the oversea ones gratefully received from the Central Office of Information, were distributed to the appropriate ministries and departments, to public libraries, schools, village councils, social welfare centres, baitkas, madressas and other allied institutions.

The calls made on the Office library continued to mount and new volumes had consequently to be ordered. The total number of books at the end of the year was 1,058 including 77 reference books, as against a round number of 1,000 volumes for the previous year. The Mobile Library Unit, graciously presented to the office by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund Committee, started its operation in the rural areas during the year.

613 sets of photographs, including "re-make" prints, as compared with 160 sets for the previous year, were made by the part-time photographer of the Office during the year and sets of photographs were sent to the Colonial Office and to the most important dailies in the United Kingdom. Besides the blocks made locally from news photographs, 57 stereos unmounted on wood and 16 blocks received from the Central Office of Information were made available to the local papers.

The total number of films in the film library reached 319 as compared with 227 in 1959. Besides favouring this office with its usual free supply, the Central Office of Information sent 17 films and the United States Information Services in Nairobi about 9 films on loan, mainly in response to specific requests made by the various Ministries and departments. Forty-eight 16 mm copies of British News were received for use by the Mobile Cinema Units and 35 mm copies were issued to the cinema companies against payment of the usual nominal fee.

As in preceding years, the Office collected the material for the revision of the section devoted to Mauritius in the following reference books. "Advertising and Press Annual of Africa," "British Commonwealth," "Knaurs Lexicon Encyclopaedia".

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Besides news on the cyclones, space was also devoted to financial, economic and political information about Mauritius in a host of foreign newspapers, mainly U.K. ones, as a result, in some cases, of action directly initiated by this Office. The Office also received 51 requests for information about Mauritius from correspondents of various countries mainly interested in possibilities of settlement in this country.

BROADCASTING

Before the Second World War broadcasting in Mauritius was run by a private commercial concern. During the war there were three stations in the Island, all partially or wholly controlled by the Government. In 1944 the Government decided to assume sole responsibility for broadcasting in the Colony and set up its own organisation, "The Mauritius Broadcasting Service", which broadcasts material of a non-commercial nature.

Since 1944 the number of radio licences has increased from 2,746 to 39,632 of which 5,126 were in respect of new radio sets licensed in 1960.

In 1959–60 the recurrent expenditure of the Mauritius Broadcasting Service amounted to Rs 523,660.01 as compared with a total revenue of Rs 392,287 derived from wireless licences.

The implementation of a scheme for the technical improvement of the Mauritius Broadcasting Service is being financed partly from local funds and partly from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds. By the end of the financial year Rs 490,886 had been spent in connection with this development scheme.

Due to the conditions arising out of the cyclones which struck the island in 1960, the Mauritius Broadcasting Service is broadcasting over a low powered 250W transmitter on 220 metres. It is hoped that early in 1961 the medium-wave service will be carried by a 10 Kw transmitter on 439.2 metres. It also broadcasts on a 10 Kw short-wave transmitter operating on 49 and 220 metres.

Another result of the cyclone is that the studio premises at Forest Side were rendered unusable and all broadcasting activities are now concentrated at the Transmitting Station at Malherbes, Curepipe.

The Mauritius Broadcasting Service has responsibility for the maintenance of the radio services belonging to Telecommunications, Meteorological and Harbour Departments.

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The Mauritius Broadcasting Service goes on the air for an average of 57½ hours a week in four daily transmissions in the course of which English, French, Hindustani and two Chinese dialects are spoken. It also broadcasts token programmes in Tamil, Hindi, Urdu, Telegu, Gujrati and Marathi.

Owing to lack of local professional artists, the programmes are mainly made up of recorded music and of transcription recordings from the British Broadcasting Corporation and the *" Radiodiffusion Television Française "*. The output of live programmes has greatly increased in quality and quantity in the course of the last two years. Six news bulletins—two in English, three in French and one in Hindustani — covering a total of one hour and ten minutes are broadcast daily.

The Education Department broadcasts weekly during term time 2 programmes of 30 minutes duration each.

The Globe Reuter News Service is monitored by the Mauritius Broadcasting Service which distributes daily more than 150 duplicated copies of world news to the local press, Government Departments, the Garrison and the Admiralty.

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Chapter 13: Local Forces

The Special (Mobile) Force

The last unit of the Military Garrison, a Company of the 2/6 Kings African Rifles, left Mauritius on the 30th June and its place was taken by the Special (Mobile) Force.

The establishment of this Force consists of a Commandant, a Deputy Commandant, three other officers, styled Unit Commanders, and 246 other ranks. At the end of the year the actual strength was 4 officers and 191 other ranks. The Force is stationed at Vacoas in buildings formerly occupied by the Garrison.

The Force is equipped with four lorries and 8 Land Rovers and is armed with rifles and light automatic weapons. A static wireless Radio Transmitter set operates from Headquarters and two way wireless sets are fitted in the Land Rovers.

A detachment of the Force took part in the Remembrance Day Parade at the War Memorial, Curepipe, on the 13th November.

Mauritius Naval Volunteer Force

The Mauritius Naval Volunteer Force completed its eleventh year of service on 30th September, 1960.

The Commanding Officer, the late commander D. W. Graham, O.B.E., Royal Navy (Retd.), died on 28th April. Lieutenant Commander R. Manton, R.N.R., assumed command of the Force on the 29th April.

Prior to his death, Commander Graham had submitted proposals to re-organise the Force on more effective lines. It is proposed to implement these proposals on the 1st January, 1961.

On the 31st December, 1960, the Force consisted of the Acting Commanding Officer and two Chief Petty Officer Instructors as Permanent Staff, one R.N. Reserve officer, eleven non-continuous service ratings, and sixty-nine volunteer ratings.

Eighteen ratings were accepted by a Selection Board held towards the end of 1959, for the new entry course which started on the 8th January. Of these, ten were enrolled after completing their initial training. A further Selection Board was held in June and out of seventy-four applicants interviewed twenty-five were accepted for the new entry course, seventeen of whom were enrolled. A third Selection Board was held in December for entry in 1961.

Voluntary drills were held each Monday and Friday evening at Mauritius Naval Volunteer Force Headquarters, and were well attended.

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HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR COLVILLE MONTGOMERY DEVERELL, K.C.M.G., C.V.O., O.B.E., SEEING OFF MEMBERS OF THE 2/6 K.A.R. ON THEIR DEPARTURE FROM MAURITIUS

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Sea Training in M.F.V. 189 was carried out during drill periods. All day sea training was carried out when possible. Week-end sea training has been introduced, and having proved successful will be carried on in the future.

The annual training took place at Cap Malheureux under canvas, and proved to be the most successful training period ever undertaken. It was attended by 63 volunteer ratings in addition to the permanent staff.

The Force provided a ceremonial platoon of 1 officer and 50 ratings for the Queen's Birthday Parade at Line Barracks, Port Louis, on the 11th June, and a further ceremonial platoon for the Remembrance Day Parade at the War Memorial, Curepipe, on the 13th November. A Guard of Honour was provided for the landing of the Commander, Netherlands Training Squadron 5, from H.NL.M.S. *Karel Doorman* on the 29th June.

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Chapter 14: General

The Mauritius Institute

The Mauritius Institute traces its origin back to the year 1880 when an Ordinance was passed " to establish and incorporate a Public Institute, to be called the Mauritius Institute, a Public Museum and a Public Library, for the purposes of promoting the general study and cultivation of the various branches and departments of Arts, Science, Literature and Philosophy, and for the instruction and recreation of the people ".

The foundation stone of the present building was laid on the 23rd November, 1880, by Sir George Bowen, then Governor. The building was completed in 1884 and in the course of the following year the Natural History Museum, known as the " Desjardins Museum ", until then housed in a wing of the Royal College in Port Louis, was transferred to the new building. The public library was opened in 1903, following the munificent bequest of the Sir Virgile Naz Library which forms the nucleus of the present collection. The Institute has expanded its activities over the years and to-day it comprises a Public Library, a Natural History Museum, an Historical Museum, and a small Art Gallery.

The Institute is managed by a Board of Directors consisting of ten members apppointed annually by the Governor and of such persons as may be recommended by any literary or scientific society associated with the Institute. The staff consists of a Director, a Librarian, a Curator, and eight other officers.

The Public Library

The Mauritius Institute Public Library was created in 1902 from a nucleus of some 9,000 volumes which had been bequeathed to the Colony by Sir Virgile Naz, K.C.M.G. (1825–1901). By subsequent purchases and gifts the stock of books has gradually risen to about 50,000 volumes. Legislation provides for the compulsory deposit in the library of one copy of all books, pamphlets and separates published locally and this right of legal deposit, which exists since the foundation of the library, is an implicit recognition of its status as the National Library of the island.

In addition to the Virgile Naz section which, in accordance with the will of the donor, is kept separately, the library comprises the following sections: art, science, technology, biography, fiction, etc. There is also a " Quick Reference " section consisting of encyclopaedias, dictionaries, directories. A collection of bound

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periodicals covering a wide range of subjects is also available. A special book-case is devoted to Oriental languages.

An important feature of the library is the special collection of works, periodicals and manuscripts in many fields of study relative to Mauritius and the other Mascarene Islands. The collection is as far as possible extended to publications on Madagascar. During the last decade, the scope of this local section has been enlarged to include, geographically, works on the Indian Ocean and, topically, monographs and reference works bearing on those themes in the development of which Mauritius had a part to play. Microfilms of rare works and of certain documents in overseas institutions have also been acquired. The bibliographical section has been enlarged and together with the existing card-catalogue provides facilities to the many research workers and students who make use of the library. These fall in several categories: overseas workers at universities or research institutions who maintain a regular correspondence with the Institute, visitors carrying on field work for shorter or longer periods in the island, visiting experts or technicians on Government missions, members of local institutions, societies and Government departments requiring information on a wide range of subjects.

The existence of a valuable section on natural history and biology should also be mentioned. It consists mainly of an important collection of works (about 6,000 volumes) many of which are now very scarce. Most of these books belong to the Royal Society of Arts and Sciences of Mauritius which is incorporated with the Mauritius Institute.

The library is arranged according to the Dewey Decimal Classification and the Browne system of book issue has been recently introduced.

Access to the Public Library is free, but a deposit of Rs 10 (15shs.) is required from readers wishing to borrow books. Some sections are however reserved and loans are made in special circumstances only. The number of registered borrowers has increased from about 200 in 1945 to very nearly 2,000 in 1960. The number of readers using the library facilities during the year was 53,522, and the book circulation for the same period was 35,988.

The Natural History Museum

The Natural History Museum is mainly regional in character and contains representative collections of the fauna, flora and geology of Mauritius and of the neighbouring islands. The Museum was visited by 74,279 persons during the year.

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The bird section contains specimens of most of the one hundred species of the birds of Mauritius. They have been grouped as shore birds, marsh birds, sea birds, game birds and land birds. The endemic species of which nine are still found out of a total of twenty-four, are displayed separately. The extinct species are shown by means of feathered restorations and paintings, and in some cases by actual skeletons. The Dodo is exhibited together with its relatives which inhabited the neighbouring islands of Reunion and Rodrigues. The species which was found in Reunion was known as the " White Dodo"; it is known only from historical evidence and by a 17th century painting, a reproduction of which is exhibited in the Museum. The Rodrigues *Solitaire* is exemplified by a genuine skeleton and by a water-colour reproduction of the feathered bird. The Museum also possesses the only known skeleton of the Mauritius flightless Red Hen *(Aphanapteryx bonasia)* and one of the three stuffed examples of the Mauritius Dutch Pigeon *(Alectroenas nitidissima)*, a species which became extinct about one hundred years ago.

In the mammal section are found examples of the very few species occurring in the Island which, with the exception of bats, have all been introduced by man at various times. These include the Javanese Deer imported by the Dutch, a Borneo Macaque released in the Island by the Portuguese, the Wild Pig and the Indian Hare.

In the reptile section are exhibited examples of the giant species of tortoises, extinct or still living, peculiar to the Indian Ocean islands, and of various kinds of turtles found in the region. The geckos, lizards and snakes of the Island are exhibited, including the very curious Round Island snakes, two species of which are found and are considered to be " living fossils ".

The fish section displays examples of the numerous species found in the territorial waters of the Island, all of them stuffed and painted in their natural colours. Fresh-water fishes, comprising about twenty-five species, some indigenous, others introduced, are also exhibited.

A large number of Echinoderms (sea-stars and urchins) live in the region and examples of nearly all the species, including a few almost unique ones, are represented in the Museum.

The Mollusca section has a rich collection and the Island is reputed for its extremely large variety of sea-shells, though most of these occur as well in all the Indo-Pacific region. The land shell fauna, comprising about two hundred species, is less spectacular but is scientifically more important, as many groups are peculiar to

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the Island. The fresh-water mollusca are insignificant, except from a medical point of view, one species being known to transmit a serious disease.

The Museum also possesses local collections of crustaceans, insects, corals and plants.

Biological Research

The very interesting remnants of the indigenous land fauna and flora, together with the rich marine life of the surrounding seas present excellent opportunities for biological research. Scientific collections of all groups are made and these are studied overseas and locally by experts, the results being published in the Mauritius Institute Bulletin and in specialized publications abroad.

Art Gallery

A small art gallery is attached to the Port Louis Museum, consisting mainly of a collection of paintings presented to the Institute in 1921 by the late Mr. Edgar de Rochecouste. This collection includes a certain number of paintings of artists such as Ziem, Le Sidaner, Harpignies, and Jacques-Emile Blanche. A small section is devoted to the works of local artists.

The Historical Museum

A subsidiary museum devoted to local history has been opened in an old French house at Mahébourg recently acquired by Government. It was in this house that Monsieur de Robillard, the French Commandant of Grand Port, received the two wounded commanders of the English and French squadrons, Admirals Willoughby and Duperré, during the well-known naval battle of August, 1810. Several objects connected with this episode and recovered one hundred and twenty-four years later from the wreck of the *Magicienne*, one of the English frigates sunk in Grand Port bay during the engagement, are exhibited. These objects include a portion of the ship's hulk, several heavy guns and carronades, cannon balls, grape-shot, copper coins, pieces of sailor's uniform and various other relics.

The capture of the Island by the British at the beginning of December, 1810, is illustrated by a series of coloured prints drawn on the spot by Temple.

A section of the museum is devoted to the display of a valuable collection of maps, charts, engravings and watercolours (many in original) which serve to introduce the visitor to the various periods of the history of Mauritius from its discovery to the present time.

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Worthy of special mention in this section are a portulan map published at Amsterdam in 1595 (probably the most accurate map of the region available at the time of the first Dutch visit to Mauritius in 1590), an English map of Mauritius by Mount and Page published in 1745 and derived from a Dutch source, Abbé de la Caille's map (1753) which is the first accurate map of the Island, Bellin's map of 1763, and two maps by Lislet Geoffroy, published by the British Admiralty in 1813 and 1814. Modern maps are also shown, including the fine one-inch map by Descubes (1880) which is of great practical interest as it indicates the site of over a thousand concessions.

Among the series of lithographs and water-colours recording the life, scenery and customs of different periods may be noted six water-colours by Kelsey (early 1840's), coloured prints by Thuillier, coloured lithographs by Bradshaw and Rider (1831–32), water-colours by Leroy (1860's), and a water-colour panoramic view of Mauritius, sketched from Port Louis harbour by Augustus Earle who was on board the *Beagle* when Charles Darwin visited Mauritius in 1836.

A few pieces of local furniture belonging to the French Governor Mahé de Labourdonnais (1699–1753) and exhibits from the East Indiaman *Kent* which was captured by Robert Surcouf, *Roi des Corsaires,* in the Bay of Bengal in October, 1800, are on view.

Relics connected with the activities of the French privateers in the Indian Ocean at the beginning of the 19th century are also displayed.

Part of a room of the Museum is devoted to the history of transport in Mauritius exemplified by two *palanquins* and a *chaise à porteurs* which were in use before the era of roads and wheeled traffic.

A small exhibit is devoted to the history of the famous " Post Office " stamp of Mauritius (1847) and is illustrated by reprints of the stamp.

Among miscellaneous items of interest may be cited: objects rescued from some memorable shipwrecks in the region, the portraits or busts of certain French and British Governors (Mahé de Labourdonnais, Charles Decaen, Robert Farquhar, Lowry Cole, John Pope Hennessy), and the Roll of Honour of the Mauritian soldiers who lost their lives in the Second World War.

During the year the Historical Museum was visited by 9,931 persons, including 5,015 schoolchildren.

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Learned Societies

The following scientific and literary societies are associated with the Mauritius Institute: —

(1) *The Royal Society of Arts and Sciences of Mauritius* was founded in 1829 under the name of *Société d'Histoire Naturelle* and was honoured in 1847 by the permission of Queen Victoria to add the word " Royal " to its name. Its activities extend to most branches of natural history. Lectures on science and art are delivered by its members from time to time and also by visiting professors, artists and scientists. Proceedings of the Society, containing papers read before the Society, are published annually. The Society owns a library which contains many rare and valuable books and periodicals on natural history.

(2) *The Société de Technologie Agricole et Sucrière de Maurice* is a technical body founded in 1910 and devoted to the study of questions relating to agriculture and to sugar technology. The papers and proceedings of the Society are published in the bi-monthly *Revue Agricole*.

(3) *The Société des Ecrivains Mauriciens* was founded in 1938 with the object of encouraging the publication of literary works, and of establishing contacts with literary institutions overseas.

(4) *The Indian Cultural Association* was founded in 1936 with the object of promoting Indian culture in Mauritius and of fostering spiritual ties with India. It publishes a quarterly journal called " The Indian Cultural Review ".

(5) *The Société de l'Histoire de l'Ile Maurice* was founded in 1938 to foster and encourage the study of the Colony's history by the collection of documents on local history, publication of historical works, and the organisation of historical exhibitions and lectures.

One of the principal activities of the Society has been the production of the Dictionary of Mauritian Biography, twenty-five parts of which have already appeared. These contain about one thousand biographies of persons connected with Mauritius by birth or residence.

The Society awards prizes to schoolchildren to encourage the study of Mauritian history. It keeps in touch and exchanges publications with overseas institutions of like interests.

THE MAURITIUS ARCHIVES

The Mauritius Archives Office is not only one of the oldest departments of the Colony, dating from the early years of the

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French settlement, but it is also one of the oldest archive centres of the Southern Hemisphere, ranking only after the Cape and Réunion repositories.

Under French rule the Office was a branch of the *Conseil Supérieur* and received special attention from the authorities. An early instance of the interest of the French Government in colonial archives is provided by the edict of 1770, which set up a central *Dépôt des Chartes des Colonies* at Versailles and enacted regulation for their better preservation. Another important measure was the establishment in Mauritius in 1808 of a *Dépôt des Cartes de la Marine* which for a long time supplied sailors and travellers in the South Indian Ocean with valuable information.

At the time of the land fighting which led to the surrender of the Island by the French, the local archives were removed from Port Louis to a safer place of custody in Plaines Wilhems and thus escaped damage. In 1815, after the final cession of Mauritius to Great Britain, they were handed over to the British authorities in an almost complete state, as comparatively few of the records were retained by the French Government.

Until 1949 the Archives were attached to the Registrar General's Department, and from January, 1950, to the Central Administration. By the Archives Ordinance (No. 71 of 1952) they were transferred to an Archives Department which is the central repository of all public archives.

The Archives Office is now divided into the following sections:

(i) the Repository, which comprises *inter alia* the records of the old French Administration (1721–1810), records of the British Administration (from 1810), notarial records, and private records;

(ii) the Library, which, besides being the official registry of all publications issued in Mauritius, contains Mauritiana printed abroad, reference books on general history, colonial history and archivology with a section devoted to collections of stamps, seals, currency notes and other materials;

(iii) the Land Registry, which comprises the records of the former Land Court, memoranda of survey deposited by sworn land surveyors, with a section containing maps, charts and plans.

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The Department is also equipped with a photostat and a duostat for the photocopying of records and the supply of copies to Government departments and to the public.

The control and disposal of records is supervised by the Public Archives Records Committee. The Chief Archivist also inspects regularly archives lying in repositories other than the Archives Department.

Publications include the annual report, the quarterly *memoranda* of books and periodicals issued in Mauritius and registered in the Archives, and the publications issued by the Archives Publication Fund Committee (established in 1951).

The bibliographical survey of Mauritiana started in 1951 was completed in February, 1955. The book, including about 1,000 pages and comprising altogether 8,865 entries, was published in 1956 under the title of Bibliography of Mauritius, 1502–1954. It was compiled with particular attention to historical development and with the main object of meeting the needs of those interested in history. To keep it up to date a bibliographical supplement including additional material recorded during each successive year from 1955 onwards, is issued as an appendix to the annual report of the Archives Department. Five supplements have appeared.

Former publications of the Mauritius Archives Publication Fund comprise an Atlas-Souvenir to commemorate the work of Abbé de la Caille in Mauritius, a selection of documents on early American trade with Mauritius and the *Répertoire des Archives de l'Ile de France pendant la régie de la Compagnie des Indes (1715–1768)*.

In 1958 the Committee issued its fourth publication entitled: *Mauritius and the spice trade: the odyssey of Pierre Poivre*, edited by Miss Madeleine Ly-Tio-Fane.

The British Council

The British Council continued its work of explaining and interpreting the British way of life throughout the island by means of lectures, film-shows and study-groups. During the year under review membership of the British Council Centre totalled 1,995 adults and 1,414 students and books lent to borrowers from the Library amounted to over 32,000.

Three scholarships for the study in the United Kingdom of the teaching of English as a foreign language were awarded to Mauritians during the year. The annual introductory course for students proceeding to the United Kingdom was held in April and

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attended by 80 students, including Mauritian Civil Servants going on study leave. The Student Welfare Department of the British Council in London continued to meet and assist Mauritian students arriving in England.

The British Council Representative in Mauritius, Mr. P. Seccombe, left the island on leave and transfer on 1st May. He was succeeded by Mr. G. de G. Sells, D.S.O., D.F.C., who arrived on 7th September.

Other Professional and Cultural Associations

British Medical Association, Mauritius Branch

A branch of the British Medical Association was founded in 1939. Membership is granted to all medical practitioners who have qualified for registration in Mauritius, including those holding French qualifications. The Branch represents the majority of the doctors in the Island and close collaboration is maintained between Government and the profession. The Branch is frequently consulted by the Government.

Le Cercle Littéraire de Port Louis

The principal object of this Society is to seek to bring together all those interested in French culture and ideas. Its aims are to encourage, by means of annual competitions and public lectures, the study of the French language and literature.

Alliance Française

The Mauritius Branch of the Alliance Française was founded in 1884 with the object of encouraging the study of the French language by means of French courses in schools and annual examinations as well as meetings and conferences on French literature and art. Two prizes are awarded annually to the best candidates in French of the Royal College and the Queen Elizabeth College. The Labourdonnais College was opened in 1953 by the Alliance Française.

Mauritius Dramatic Club

The first record of an organised amateur theatrical production in Mauritius goes back as far as the 25th April, 1848, when officers of the 5th Battalion, the Northumberland Fusiliers, staged three one-act plays at the Port Louis Theatre.

A Mauritius Amateur Dramatic Club was formed in 1898 and stage productions and play readings were regularly featured until the 1914–1918 War.

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The present Mauritius Dramatic Club owes its origin to a revival in theatrical activity which began in early 1920 and which ultimately led to the formation of the Club in 1932. Since then stage plays, play readings and broadcasts have been frequently presented.

The Vacoas House of Debaters

This association, founded in 1936, takes a special interest in general educational and cultural development.

Fortnightly meetings are held for debates and plays, and occasional radio programmes are presented on the Mauritius Broadcasting Service. Lectures by eminent outside personalities are delivered from time to time.

A Scholarship Fund, authorized by Government, provides for the educational needs of pupil-members taking a secondary course of studies. A girls' section was started in January, 1952, for the benefit of girls of 12 and upwards.

Tennis, volley ball, table-tennis, outings, open air camping are some of the recreational activities.

The Mental and Physical Culture Association

The principal aims of this Association are to encourage the study of the English language and literature and to assist its members to obtain facilities for enjoying sports such as tennis and football.

The Hindi Pracharini Sabha

This society was established in 1935 with headquarters at Montagne Longue. Its main object is to promote and encourage the study of Hindi in Mauritius. 101 Hindi Schools are at present affiliated to it. Efforts are being made to produce a uniform curriculum in all Hindi schools, to improve the standard of teaching, and to foster the study of Hindi language and literature. Two annual examinations in Higher Hindi are conducted with the collaboration of the Hindi Sahilya Sammelan, Allahabad, India.

The Young Men's Christian Association

The Mauritius Y.M.C.A. was founded in collaboration with the London Central Y.M.C.A. and inaugurated in August, 1952. It is also a member of the World Council of Y.M.C.A.

The P.E.N. Club de l'Océan Indien

The Mauritius section of the " Federation Internationale des P.E.N. Clubs " was founded in Mauritius in 1951. It seeks to promote a spirit of understanding and friendship among the writers of all sections of the community and also among those of the neighbouring islands.

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The English Association

Founded in 1946, the English Association is the outcome of a movement started by a group of English and Mauritian ladies and gentlemen with the primary object of helping Mauritian secondary school-children who were learning English to a better knowledge of the tongue and to a fuller acquaintance with English literature and culture. These school-children, usually weak in spoken English through lack of practice, were above all to be given opportunities of speaking English and of hearing it spoken by English people.

The Association, which has a membership of about 60 and works in close co-operation with the British Council, tries to achieve its aims by engaging in as many activities as possible likely to be of assistance to students of English language and literature. Film shows, dramatic performances, and broadcasts in English are arranged for school children and essay-writing competitions are held. Above all, annual competitions in elocution, acting and choral singing are held and the prize-winners take part in a public recital. The number of schools taking part in these competitions is steadily increasing.

The Association has since its foundation been honoured with the patronage of the Governors of the Colony, its first Patron having been Sir Donald Mackenzie-Kennedy.

Centre Culturel Français

The *Centre Culturel Français* which was inaugurated in May, 1959, had, by the end of the year, enrolled some 700 members drawn up from all sections of the community.

The *Centre Culturel Français* is provided with a film unit, a goodsized library, an auditorium where records may be played at will. The Centre, situated at Curepipe, is open to the public. It is administered by two Honorary Chairmen (one of whom is the Consul for France), one President, two Vice-Presidents assisted by a Working Committee of 26 members.

The activities of the *Centre Culturel Français* are many and varied. Documentary films are shown twice weekly to the public while a cine-club operates for members only once weekly. Talks are given regularly on many subjects, literary as well as scientific, by visiting lecturers or by members of the Centre. Socials, seminars, debates, literary matinees are also held at the Centre.

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PART III

Chapter 1: Geography and Climate

POSITION

Few people living outside the Indian Ocean area would, without research, be able to place Mauritius accurately, unless perhaps they were stamp-collectors. On the map of the Indian Ocean the Island is shown by a dot somewhere near the centre. Yet it has laid claim with some degree of historical justification to the title of "The Star and Key of the Indian Ocean". It is situated about 500 miles off the centre of the east coast of Madagascar, and is practically on the Tropic of Capricorn. By sea, it is 1,552 miles distant from Durban, 2,094 from Colombo and 3,182 from Perth. The voyage to the United Kingdom *via* the Suez Canal entails a journey of 6,942 miles, but if the alternate route *via* the Cape of Good Hope is taken the distance is 8,393 miles. Nowadays, most people travel to and from the Island by air, to Europe, India or South Africa, and journeys which used to involve weeks or months have shrunk to a matter of hours.

Physical Features

Geologically, the Indian Ocean consists of two great basins separated by a central submarine ridge running southwards from India. Mauritius is one of the few points on this ridge which appear above the surface. It is of purely volcanic origin and the Island we know today is probably only the worn down summit of an immense shield volcano which built itself up from the ocean bed in Cretaceo-Tertiary times. There were two distinct phases of volcanic activity, separated by a very long period of erosion. The older volcanic series began by the opening of a fissure in the earth's crust beneath the floor of the Indian Ocean. Eruptions slowly built up a submarine ridge of considerable height and extent. The base of the future island of Mauritius was one of the domes of this ridge. The island that appeared was perhaps, at one time, as high as the present-day Himalayas; then before the first cycle of volcanic activity ceased, a series of explosions partially destroyed what had been built up. During the very long period of quiescence which followed, the agents of erosion—wind and water, heat and cold—reduced the volcanic pile to a mere remnant. The olivine basalt blocks of the older volcanic series are hard, compact and black in colour.

Towards the close of the Tertiary period, the second great phase of volcanic activity occurred. It was divided into two periods of eruptions, separated by a short period of erosion. The first out-

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burst appears to have been confined to the south-west of Mauritius; the last one consisted of a succession of thin lava flows from 2″ to 20″ in thickness. These cover about 70 per cent of the present surface of the Island. Lava tunnels dating from this period are common, some of them carrying underground streams. There are also low hummocks *(tumuli)* of up to 15 feet in height, and a few depressions (e.g. at *Ile d'Ambre* and the *Puits des Hollandais)*. The rocks of the younger volcanic series are medium grey doleritic basalts.

Volcanic activity must have ceased in Mauritius more than 100,000 years ago, although the neighbouring French Island of Réunion still has an active volcano. In Mauritius a complicated series of geological submergences and emergences followed the cessation of volcanic activity. The present is a period of slow submergence. Raised reefs and beaches are found at many localities along the coast, some as much as 60 feet above sea level. The Island rests on a submarine shelf varying from ½ to 2½ miles in width, except towards the North where it covers an area of 15 by 13 miles. Outside this shelf the submarine ridge slopes rapidly down to the mean Indian Ocean depth of 2,000 fathoms.

Mauritius, which is roughly pear-shaped, is 38 miles long by 29 miles broad. From the North an extensive undulating plain rises gently towards the central plateau, where it reaches a height of about 2,200′ before dropping sharply to the southern and western coasts. There are three main groups of mountains—the Port Louis group running in a east-north-easterly direction, the Black River—Savanne group massed in a north to south direction, and the Bambous group with a east-west trend. The mountains are a striking feature of the Mauritian landscape, rising abruptly from the surrounding plain, with their lower slopes covered with dense vegetation—now being replaced by sugar cane or tea—and their upper slopes ending in precipitous rocky peaks with most distinctive outlines. They appear to be much higher than they actually are, and are particularly impressive in the early morning or towards sunset. Few visitors fail to notice the contrast between these stark, upthrusting masses, and the flat, fertile cultivated plains from which they rise.

The main watershed of the Island runs northwards across the central plateau for a distance of about 20 miles. From this ridge the ground slopes towards the coast, except where interrupted by the mountain ranges or by isolated peaks. The rivers consequently tend to run westward or eastward. Most of them are short and fast

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flowing, generally at the bottom of deep ravines and interrupted by waterfalls. Some of the larger have been harnessed for hydro-electric purposes. True crater lakes are found at Bassin Blanc and Grand Bassin, but in general water conservation is achieved by man-made reservoirs, of which there are now six.

The Island is almost completely encircled by coral fringing reefs, within which are peaceful lagoons and a succession of lovely beaches of white, coral sand. Together with the mountains, the seashore is the glory of Mauritius and much of the social life of the Island is based upon it. Those who can afford the cost, have sea-side residences which they occupy during the winter months and at weekends for most of the other months. Public beaches give an outlet to the less favoured part of the population. As may be expected, swimming, sailing and fishing are popular pastimes in which all sections of the population indulge, no part of the Island being more than 17 miles from the coast.

Mauritius has a number of island dependencies in the Indian Ocean. These are Rodrigues (350 miles to the east), Chagos Archipelago (1,180 miles north-east in the direction of Ceylon), Agalega and Cargados Carajos (580 miles and 250 miles respectively north of Mauritius).

Rodrigues*, the principal dependency, is a mountainous island of volcanic formation encircled by a coral reef and has a total area of about 40 square miles. It measures 9½ miles in length by 4½ miles in width and its population consists mostly of fishermen and small cultivators.

Chagos* consists of five groups of coral islands, the biggest of which is Diégo Garcia. The horseshoe-shaped ribbon of land lying just above sea level surrounds a lagoon thirteen miles long and between four and five miles wide.

Agalega* consists of two small islands, separated by a narrow strip of sandbank. This dependency is the main source of copra for the edible oil industry of Mauritius.

The archipelago of Cargados Carajos*, usually referred to by the name of the principal islet, St Brandon, is a fishing station leased to a Mauritian company.

Climate and Vegetation

Mauritius enjoys a sub-tropical maritime climate, with sufficient difference between summer and winter to avoid monotony, and further variation is introduced by the wide range of rainfall

*See Maps at end of Report.

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and temperature resulting from the mountainous nature of the island. Humidity is rather high throughout the year and rainfall is sufficient to maintain a green cover of vegetation, except for a brief period in the driest districts. The greenness of the Island is, indeed, a striking feature of the territory giving an impression of high natural fertility. This is deceptive, as the soils are generally shallow and are poor in phosphates and exchangeable bases. The fertility of the Island is in fact largely the consequence of man's intervention and skill.

The summer season runs from November to April, and the winter from June to October, though the months April—June and September—November can be looked upon as transitional periods and are usually the most pleasant in the year. Rain falls mainly in summer, but there is no well-defined dry season. At sea the annual rainfall near Mauritius is about 40 inches, but the uplift of the moisture-laden sea air, caused by the mountains, results in a rainfall varying from about 30 inches on the south-west coast to 200 inches on the central plateau. Variation from year to year is not large, but is nevertheless sufficiently great to reduce considerably the size of the sugar and other crops when the year is dry. In very wet years the rain water percolates through the soil and is carried off in the ravines without causing much damage.

Average relative humidity varies from 60 per cent in October to 68 per cent in February on the coast in the Port Louis area. Upcountry, at Curepipe, the variation is from 87 per cent in the drier months to 90 per cent average in the wetter. On high ground 100 per cent humidity is frequently experienced. Relative humidity is highest about dawn and lowest at noon, but the daily range is only about 13 per cent because of the maritime climate. For the same reason, neither the seasonal nor the daily range of temperature is large.

At Port Louis, the day maximum and night minimum temperatures during the hottest months average 80°F and 77°F respectively: in the winter they average 76°F and 68°F. The highest and lowest temperatures ever reached are 97°F and 54°F at Port Louis, and at Curepipe, which is 1,850 feet above mean sea level, they are 90°F and 45°F.

The amount of sunshine varies considerably from day to day, as might be expected in a mountainous, sub-tropical island, but there is relatively little change with the months of the year. In the drier north-west of the Island, there is an average of 8 hours'

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bright sunshine per day; on the high south-eastern slopes it averages 6 hours for most of the year but falls to 4½ hours in mid-winter. The topography of Mauritius makes it an easy task to chase the sunshine.

For most of the year the Island experiences steady trade winds of moderate strength, blowing from south-east to east-south-east. In summer they may die away and be replaced by calms or by a northerly wind which is humid and rather warm. Summer, too, is the cyclone season, the greatest frequency being in January and February. March cyclones are more dreaded, however, as when they occur at this time of the year they damage the maturing sugarcane crop to a greater extent.

During the past century cyclones have caused winds with gust speeds of 100 miles per hour on only four or five occasions, and gust speeds reaching 60 miles per hour on about thirty occasions. Wind speeds increase towards the centre of a tropical cyclone, so little damage is likely to be caused if the centre passes at some distance from the Island. After 15 years of freedom from cyclones, the island was hit by two major ones this year. Cyclone "Alix" passed 20 miles away off the west coast during the afternoon of the 19th January. Wind speed over a whole hour reached 60 m.p.h. and gusts 100 to 125 m.p.h. On the 28th February the centre of cyclone "Carol" passed directly over Mauritius, the passage of the eye taking approximately four hours. Wind speed over a whole hour reached 83 m.p.h. and gusts were measured up to 159 m.p.h. These figures are the highest on record in the south-west Indian Ocean.

The distribution of cyclones over the years is very irregular. It may happen, as it did in 1945, and 1960, that the island will be hit by two destructive cyclones within a matter of weeks. On the other hand, years may pass without gale winds leaving their trail of destruction.

Population

Mauritius has the unenviable claim to fame of being one of the most densely populated agricultural areas in the world, with a population increase of 36 per cent in the last decade and no outlets in sight for its surplus population. The effect of this population increase has been described in a recent Sessional Paper as "a situation of real gravity, which will steadily deteriorate and which can only be remedied if policies, deliberately directed to that end, are framed and enthusiastically pursued."

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The problem is further complicated by the heterogeneous nature of the population, drawn from European, African and Asian sources over the last three centuries. The largest ethnic group is the Indo-Mauritian, representing two-thirds of the total population, and subdivided into Hindus and Muslims. The second largest group, about one-quarter of the population, comprises people of French, English and mixed descent, is Christian and mainly Roman Catholic. The last distinct group is the Sino-Mauritian, half Christian, half Buddhist. The employment pattern has tended to follow the racial, although it is being increasingly obscured by the need to find work wherever it offers. Generally speaking, however, the Hindus are agricultural, the Muslims are traders and industrial workers, the Chinese are shop-keepers, and the General Population clerical, commercial and professional urban dwellers. Population density throughout the Island exceeds 887 per square mile, but this figure does not reveal the true position which is that the population is concentrated in a number of towns and villages. The population density of the capital, Port Louis, is in excess of 40,000 per square mile, and the Plaines Wilhems townships have a density ranging from 8,000—16,000. More than half the total population is below 20 years of age—a situation of real gravity in a territory with no natural outlet for its surplus population.

Economic Conditions

To-day, sugar means more to Mauritius than wool did to England in the days of the Merchant Guilds. The sugar cane covers 90 per cent of the total area under cultivation, and the yield represents 96 per cent of all arable production. Nearly 45 per cent of the total area of the Island is cultivated, an intensity of cultivation with few parallels in the tropics. Of this area, what is not under sugar is producing tea (mainly in the up-lands), tobacco, some maize, vegetables and in the drier coastal areas, aloe fibre for the making of sacks.

Originally indigenous forests covered the greater part of the Island. From the surviving remnants it is possible to distiguish two types—the rich, evergreen forests of the uplands where the rainfall is in excess of 75″ per annum, and the dry forests in the areas of lower rainfall. In all, they amount to only a few thousand acres of the area at present forested, the majority with exotic conifers and eucalyptus. The two disastrous cyclones which struck the Island at the beginning of the year have played havoc in the forests and the exotic species, specially conifers have in many cases been reduced to a chaotic mass of broken banches and trunks. Crown

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forests, mainly in the uplands, cover 67,000 acres. Around the coast there are 3,500 acres of Crown Land leased for tree cultivation. River and mountain reserves private hands slightly exceed 15,000 acres. The forests have a dual function, as a protective cover on unproductive ground forming the catchment area of a number of rivers, and for producing most of the timber needed by the Island for construction or for use as fuel.

With such a high proportion of land under arable crops and forest cover there is little room for livestock production. Cattle number only about 40,000. Pig-keeping is limited; sheep do not do well; goats are kept mainly by the Indian population; poultry-keeping both on an industrial basis and as a background occupation is growing in popularity. But the Island as a whole has placed its reliance on the skill of the sugar industry to continue to provide it with the means of purchasing from abroad its food and clothing, manufactured goods, machinery, fertilizers and building material—in fact, practically all it needs to live.

Domestic exports usually vary between 250 and 325 million rupees a year but in 1960 have amounted to 180 million* rupees only as the sugar crop which makes up about 97 per cent of the Colony's export trade was ruined by the two very violent cyclones. Tea and molasses are the only other exports from the Colony which exceed an annual value of over one million rupees. In 1960 the imports have exceeded the exports by 147 million* rupees whereas for the years 1955 to 1959 there has been a favourable balance of trade, averaging 26 million rupees a year. Almost all the sugar crop goes to the United Kingdom and Commonwealth territories, only about 5 per cent going to General Tariff countries. Similarly about three quarters of the imports come from within the Commonwealth. Port Louis, the capital and the only port equipped to handle oceangoing vessels, handles the sugar exports by means of lighters carrying the bagged sugar to ships moored in the stream. Inward freight is mainly discharged into lighters also, but plans are in hand to improve the docking facilities.

Mauritius is completely lacking in mineral resources, has no *entrepot* trade and, apart from sugar and its by-products, has virtually no manufacturing enterprises. It is a text-book example of a one-crop economy.

Communications

This small island of 720 square miles has an excellent system of road communications, exceeding 700 miles in all, of which more than half are tarred. Road traffic is extremely dense. The railway

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service, now reduced by closures of uneconomic lines to a total of 82 miles, is a Government enterprise and handles only goods traffic. There is only one airport in Mauritius, situated at Plaisance, in the south-east of the Island about three miles from the coast, and managed by the Civil Aviation Department of the Mauritius Government. No aircraft is based on Mauritius and no internal services exist. Regular external air services are operated (twice weekly) by AIR FRANCE *via* Nairobi, Madagascar and Réunion and (in alternate weeks) between Australia and South Africa *via* Cocos Islands and Mauritius by QANTAS EMPIRE AIRWAYS and SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS.

Communication with the dependencies is ensured by a passenger-steamship service, with sailings of six to eight times a year to Rodrigues. The minor dependencies are linked, somewhat irregularly, by ships belonging to the commercial companies to which the islands are leased for the production of copra or the exploitation of the off-shore fishing.

There is an efficient public telephone and telegraph system throughout the Island, which is also linked with the rest of the world by Cable and Wireless Ltd., now operating radio-telephone links with many countries as well as its long-established cable service.

Finally, reference should be made to the Government operated Mauritius Broadcasting Service, which provides medium wave transmissions for local listeners and a short-wave service for listeners overseas.

* Provisional

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Chapter 2: History

The Island was probably visited both by Arab sailors and by Malays during the Middle Ages, and on maps of about 1500 it is shown with an Arabic name. During the early sixteenth century Portuguese sailors visited it several times, and the first European to discover Mauritius is believed to have been Domingos Fernandez. The Island appears on many sixteenth century maps with the Portuguese name of *Cerné* or *Cirné*.

Dutch sailors first visited the Island in 1598 and renamed it Mauritius, after their ruler Prince Maurice of Nassau; later they made frequent calls on their trading expeditions to the East Indies. First-hand accounts exist of these visits, and of visits by English, French and Danish ships, which called at Mauritius for water, food and cargoes of ebony. An English trading company planned to occupy the Island but was forestalled in 1638 by a Dutch company, whose settlement lasted (with a gap from 1658 to 1664) until 1710. It was from Mauritius in 1642 that Tasman set out on his most important voyage of Australasian discovery.

The Dutch settlers never numbered much over three hundred (including children and slaves) and the most useful element was a group of twenty or thirty farmers, rearing cattle, hunting, fishing and growing food crops as well as some tobacco. But the settlement never developed enough to produce dividends and the Dutch company finally abandoned it in 1710. The most noteworthy results of this Dutch occupation were the exploitation of the Islands's great ebony forests and the extinction of the Dodo, a bird peculiar to Mauritius, often mentioned by early seventeenth-century travellers. The Dutch are also to be remembered for the introduction of sugarcane, cotton, domestic animals and deer. Before the Dutch occupation the Island was uninhabited. The slaves introduced into Mauritius by the Dutch were brought from Madagascar.

The French in 1715 claimed the Island and called it *Ile de France*, but do not seem to have settled any of their surplus Bourbon colonists there until 1722. In the intervals, European pirates from Madagascar and ships of the British Navy, searching for the pirates, were almost the only visitors.

From 1722 till about 1767 Mauritius was governed by the French East India Company. From 1767 to 1810 it was in charge of officials appointed by the French Government, apart from a brief period of independence under the Colonial Assembly during the

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French Revolution. In 1735 the population had grown to almost one thousand, including two hundred Europeans, and from the time of the governorship of Mahé de Labourdonnais onwards increased rapidly, reaching nearly twenty thousand in 1767 (fifteen thousand of them slaves). Labourdonnais did more than any other Governor to change what was a petty outpost into a strong, prosperous and well populated colony. Much of the land was divided into concessions of approximately a quarter-mile by a mile, and most of these were farmed. Coffee, manioc, maize, vegetables, fruit, indigo, cloves and sugar were among the crops grown. There was some rearing of poultry, goats and cattle.

Towards the end of the Company's rule Port Louis, the capital, was a lair of speculators and adventurers desirous of returning to Europe as soon as they had made their fortunes. During the wars of the eighteenth century (Austrian Succession War, Seven Years War, and War of American Independence), the Island became a naval depot, supplying French fleets fighting the British in the Indian Ocean, and was the pivot of French schemes to drive the British out of their Indian trading settlements. It was also a port of call for several expeditions, notably that of Bougainville, and was described by many French travellers, of whom the best known is Bernardin de Saint Pierre, author of *Paul et Virginie*.

From 1767, under royal government, the population continued to increase, reaching thirty thousand in 1777, forty thousand in 1787, and nearly sixty thousand in 1797, including fifty thousand slaves from Madagascar and Africa. During the French Revolution the inhabitants of Mauritius set up a government virtually independent of France, because the property owners were resolved to defend their interests against the *Jacobins* and *sans culottes* and to resist the attempt made by the French revolutionary government to release the slaves. The Colonial Assembly organised successful and damaging raids on English commerce whenever England and France were at war. The raids continued while Decaen, one of Napoleon's generals, was Governor until in 1810 a strong British expedition, long planned and more than once postponed, was sent to capture the Island. A preliminary attack was foiled at Grand Port in August, 1810, but the main attack, launched in December of the same year with larger forces, was successful. Bourbon and Rodrigues were also occupied by the British in 1810, but by the Treaty of Paris in 1814 Bourbon was given back to France. Mauritius and its dependencies, including Rodrigues and the Seychelles, were then ceded definitely to Great Britain.

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Many English officials were brought in, together with a large garrison of several regiments. By 1870 the garrison had been gradually reduced to half a battalion, which was still further reduced after 1914. Few English merchants and private persons have settled in Mauritius, whose European population has remained mainly French in language and sentiment although loyal to the British Crown. After 1825 the Island flourished, especially by the export of sugar to England, the crop increasing from 14,000 tons to 34,000 tons in the decade 1823–33. During these early years the English Government's policy of suppression of the slave trade and the consequent plans to free the slaves were opposed until a sum of two million pounds sterling had been paid to the slave owners as compensation for the loss of their slaves. To replace the freed slaves labourers were brought from India to work in the fields. The population, which in 1833 had reached a hundred thousand (three-quarters of them slaves), had by 1861 risen to three hundred thousand, nearly two hundred thousand of them being immigrants from India, most of whom remained to settle in Mauritius.

With the aid of immigrant labour, imported fertilizers, improved methods of agriculture and richer cane varieties, the sugar crop rose to 70,000 tons in 1853, 150,000 tons by 1900, and in 1959 reached the record figure of 580,372 tons. In the interest of the sugar industry, forests were cut down, labourers brought in, reservoir and irrigation schemes carried out, new government departments set up and technicians trained. As Joseph Conrad wrote: " First rate sugarcane is grown there. All the population lives for it and by it. Sugar is their daily bread ".

Other industries were sporadically encouraged and usually neglected. After the slaves had been freed, much less food was grown locally and more was imported, especially rice from India. This became the staple food of the population and remained so, except in the 1939–45 war when rice supplies from Burma and India were cut off and imported flour and local crops had to be used as substitutes. When boom prices were being paid for sugar after the 1914–18 war, various minor industries including tea, brick and tile manufacture, tobacco, aloe fibre bags and a government dairy were developed.

One side of Mauritian history is concerned with cyclones, epidemics and crop pests, which from time to time have upset the economy of the island. In the eighteen-fifties there were epidemics of cholera and in the eighteen-sixties five years of epidemic malaria which caused in 1867 the death of 20,000 people in Port Louis alone

*Provisional.

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and the mass migration of thousands of persons, including almost all the well-to-do, from Port Louis and the coastal districts to the higher, healthier parts of Plaines Wilhems. Curepipe, a scattered village in 1865, was by 1895 large enough to have a town board, nominated annually by the Governor, and by 1959 was a town of 27,900 people. The district of Plaines Wilhems, which in 1851 had 14,000 inhabitants, grew to 75,000 in 1921 and 187,234 in 1959. The cyclone of 1892, in which 1,200 persons were killed; the epidemic of sura in 1902, which killed off all the draught oxen and caused sugar estates hurriedly to import light railways; bubonic plague in 1899; the *Phytalus Smithi* beetle, which in 1911 was found to be attacking the sugarcane; the 1919 epidemic of influenza; the spread of malaria during the nineteen-thirties into the hills and higher districts; and, finally, three cyclones and a serious outbreak of poliomyelitis in 1945 and finally two severe cyclones in 1960 are some of the greater misfortunes woven into the pattern of the Island's history

When sugar prices were high and the Island was prosperous, living conditions were improved in various ways. The sanitation of Port Louis was improved in the eighteen-nineties after long discussion. Sir Ronald Ross's visit in 1908 led to useful anti-malarial work during the next twenty years. Reservoirs at Mare-aux-Vacoas (1893–95), La Ferme (1918), La Nicolière (1924) and Piton du Milieu (1956) brought irrigation and domestic water in private houses and to sugar estates in several districts. Child welfare and similar activities developed in the war years. After expert inquiries in 1921 the water supply of Port Louis was greatly improved and the port itself was modernised. Under the stimulus of the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts more money was spent on education after the War. Before 1937 government revenue had come mainly from taxes on goods entering or leaving the Island as well as on various local products. A graduated poll tax on incomes was introduced and within ten years had almost doubled government revenue. The poll tax was replaced by an income tax as from the 1st July, 1951. The revenue from this source rose from Rs 17,322,000 in the financial year 1950–51 to Rs 40,155,075 in the financial year 1959–60.

At times when sugar prices were low or climatic difficulties discouraging, the Island had to raise loans or obtain grants from London. This happened in 1892, in 1908 when a Royal Commission of Inquiry under Sir Frank Swettenham was sent out from England, in 1930 when government expenditure on public works and on salaries was cut, in 1945 and 1960 as the consequence of the disastrous cyclones of these years.

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The main political events of the period 1850–1900 were the establishment of the Municipality of Port Louis in 1850, the Royal Commission of Enquiry on Indian Immigration in 1872, and the creation in 1886 of a Council of Government including elected members.

The early years of the present century were a period of slow recovery after the epidemics, cyclones and other calamities. The years that immediately followed the 1914–18 war were years of unprecedented prosperity, owing to a boom in sugar prices, but this prosperity did not last long. During the second World War, Mauritius assumed considerable strategic importance through the closing of the Suez Canal and the threat to India by the Japanese after their conquest of most of the European settlements in the Far East. The population at large played a valuable part in the organisation of local, military, and passive defence and a large number of the Colony's youth volunteered to serve overseas.

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Chapter 3: Administration

Central Government

The Government of Mauritius is vested in a Governor with an Executive Council and a Legislative Council.

A Council of Government was first established in 1825. It consisted of the Governor and four officials. In the following year the Constitution was amended and a Council which included unofficial members was introduced. This Constitution provided for a Council of Government composed of certain officers of the Crown and an equal number of other persons, to be taken from the chief landowners and principal merchants of the Colony; seven officials and seven non-officials were accordingly appointed.

The Constitution was again amended in October, 1885. The Council of Government under the revised Constitution was composed of the Governor, eight *ex officio* members, nine members nominated by the Governor, and ten elected members; of the latter, two represented the town of Port Louis, the capital of the Island, and the remaining eight represented the rural districts. At least one-third of the nominated members were to be persons not holding any public office.

The Constitution was further amended in July, 1933, by fixing at two-thirds the proportion of the nominated members of the Council who were to be non-officials and, although no provision to that effect was made in the Letters Patent, the nominated non-official members were allowed a free vote on all occasions. The constitution of the Executive Council, which had hitherto been composed of the Governor and four *ex officio* members, was amended at the same time, and the practice of appointing non-official members to the Council, which had prevailed before the Royal Commission of 1909 reported, was revived.

The normal life of a Council is five years, but the last one to sit under the 1933 Constitution lasted from 1936 to 1948. This long extension was due first of all to the war and subsequently to the delay in arriving at a final decision on the new and more liberal Constitution. The protracted labours of the Consultative Committee on the revision of the constitution had ended in a virtual stalemate. In 1947 the then Governor, Sir Donald Mackenzie-Kennedy, broke this stalemate by submitting to the Secretary of State revised proposals based on his belief that the bulk of the population was not ready for fully democratic institutions. To guard against possible abuse certain safeguards were suggested, but within these limitations

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the widest possible measure of enfranchisement, on the basis of a "simple literacy" requirement, was recommended by the Governor, whose recommendations were accepted and embodied in the Letters Patent, Royal Instructions and Order in Council dated the 9th December, 1947. A general election was held in August, 1948, and the new Council met on the first day of September.

Constituencies were regrouped under the Order in Council of December, 1947. Plaines Wilhems and Black River were joined together to form one constituency returning six members. The constituencies of Pamplemousses/Rivière du Rempart, Moka/Flacq and Grand Port/Savanne each returned three members, and the constituency of Port Louis had four members.

Under the 1933 Constitution the number of registered electors was never greater than 12,000 (the figure of December, 1947, was 11,799). The number of registered electors under the 1947 Constitution was six times greater—71,723 having qualified to vote in the 1948 general election—and by the end of 1957 had risen to 91,010.

In 1958, by virtue of the Mauritius (Electoral Provisions) Order in Council, 1958, the 40 constituencies recommended in the report of the Mauritius Electoral Boundary Commission were demarcated and proclaimed, the registration of electors for the Legislative Council was undertaken for the first time on the basis of universal adult suffrage and the number of registered electors rose to 208,684.

On the 31st December, 1958, the Second Legislative Council was dissolved and the Mauritius (Constitution) Order in Council, 1958, was brought into operation with the exception of Part II thereof, relating to the Executive Council. The way was thus clear for a general election for the Legislative Council on the basis provided in the constitutional Order in Council to take place early in 1959.

The Legislative Council was composed in 1960 of the Speaker, three *ex officio*, 40 elected and 12 nominated non-official members. The Governor formerly presided but since January, 1957, the Council has had a Speaker appointed by the Governor, in accordance with the Mauritius (Legislative Council) (Amendment) Order in Council, 1956, and the Mauritius (Constitution) Orders in Council, 1958 and 1959. A Deputy Speaker is elected by the Council from amongst those members who are not Ministers.

In debates in the Legislative Council members may speak either in English or in French.

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The Executive Council consists of three officials (the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General and the Financial Secretary), and nine members appointed by the Governor from amongst elected or nominated members of the Legislative Council in accordance with section 7 of the Mauritius (Constitution) Order in Council, 1958. The *ex officio* and appointed members are styled Ministers. Each Minister is responsible for the administration of specified departments or subjects and is bound by the rules of collective responsibility. Besides the official members, nine Ministers hold portfolios as Minister of Finance, Minister of Health and Reform Institutions, Minister of Labour and Social Security, Minister of Education and Cultural Affairs, Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Minister of Local Govenment and Co-operative Development, Minister of Housing, Lands and Town and Country Planning, Miniter of Industry, Commerce and External Communications, and Minister of Works and Internal Communications. The title of Minister of Finance replaces the title of Ministerial Secretary to the Treasury which ceased to exit on the 30th of April. The Executive Council, which was formerly a purely advisory body, now has full executive responsibility and is the principal instrument of policy. The Governor is obliged to consult with Executive Council in the formulation of policy and in the exercise of all powers conferred upon him by the Mauritius Letters Patent, other than those which he is empowered to exercise in his discretion, and to act in accordance with the advice of the Executive Council.

The names of members of the Executive and Legislative Councils are given in Appendices II and III to this Report.

The head of the Civil Service is the Colonial Secretary. He is the Governor's principal official adviser on administrative and political matters. The Financial Secretary is the chief financial and economic adviser of the Minister of Finance.

The Public Service Commission Ordinance was passed in 1953 (No. 23 of that year) providing for the constitution of a Public Service Commission with a membership of not more than four members including the Chairman. The Ordinance was brought into force with effect from the 11th May, 1955, by Proclamation. Subsequently the Ordinance was amended by the Public Service (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 23 of 1959) increasing the number of members to five. By virtue of section 52 of the Mauritius (Constitution) Order in Council, 1958, as amended by section 2 of the Mauritius (Constitution) (Amendment) Order in Council, 1959, the Commission is part of the constitution of Mauritius. The Com-

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mission's function is to advise the Governor on appointments, promotions, disciplinary action and other matters which are referred to it in accordance with the provisions of the Ordinance. During 1960 the Commission considered 1,804 applications in connexion with first appointments to 402 posts, as well as the claims of 496 candidates for promotion: this involved a total of 971 interviews. The Commission also advised on 25 disciplinary cases and considered 78 matters concerning the grant of study leave or scholarships.

The Police Service Commission consists of a Chairman and four other members in accordanc with section 3 of the Mauritius (Constitution) (Amendment) Order in Council, 1959, under which it was constituted on 28th July, 1959; the Chairman of the Public Service Commission serves as Chairman.

The function of the Commission is to advise the Governor on any question relating to the appointment, promotion, dismissal or disciplinary control of members of the police force and on any matters affecting the police force which may be referred to it.

A major task of the Commission during the year under review was to select a further 200 candidates for enlistment as Privates in the Special (Mobile) Force.

Local Government

Urban

The Municipality of Port Louis was first established in 1850. The membership of the Municipal Council, which is wholly elected, was increased from 12 to 16 by the Municipality (Amendment) Ordinance, 1950 (No. 35 of that year). The Mayor and Deputy Mayor are elected by the Council for appointment by the Governor.

In Plaines Wilhems the Town Councils (Constitution) Ordinance (No. 38 of 1950) provided for Town Councils to replace the former Boards of Commissioners for Curepipe, Beau Bassin/Rose Hill, and Quatre Bornes. The majority of the members are elected but each Council has a proportion of members nominated by the Governor: Curepipe and Beau Bassin/Rose Hill each have twelve elected and four nominated members, while Quatre Bornes has ten elected and three nominated members.

The franchise was until recently based on residence plus a simple literacy test, occupation of business premises in the electoral area, or the payment of rates or taxes. During 1959, however, the decision was taken to hold the Municipal and Town Council elections on the basis of universal adult suffrage and certain tax-

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payers qualifications. In consequence the Municipality (Transitional Provisions) Ordinance and the Town Councils (Transitional Provisions) Ordinance (Nos. 2 and 3 of 1959) were passed postponing the elections, which were due to be held in December, 1959, to 1960. In Port Louis and Quatre Bornes polling took place on the 11th December; there was no poll in Curepipe and Beau Bassin/Rose Hill, the number of candidates being equal to the number of available seats.

The number of registered electors for the Municipal and Town Councils at the end of 1960 was as follows:—

Council	*Registered electors*
Port Louis	... 27,089
Curepipe	... 11,313
Beau Bassin/Rose Hill	... 11,136
Quatre Bornes ...	... 8,073

By virtue of the Local Government Elections Ordinance (No. 1 of 1956) responsibility for the registration of electors and for the conduct of elections in the electoral areas of the Municipality and the three Town Councils was placed on an Electoral Commisioner appointed by the Governor. In 1956 electors were registered and the general elections for the Municipal and Town Councils were conducted in accordance with the provisions of that Ordinance for the first time. This Ordinance, however, has been repealed by the Representation of the People Ordinance (No. 14 of 1958) which provides for the registration of electors and the conduct of elections for both the Legislative Council and the Municipal and Town Councils. Responsibility for the registration of electors and the conduct of elections continues to be vested in an Electoral Commissioner and the Municipal and Town Council elections were held in accordance with the provisions of the new Ordinance.

In the course of the year by virtue of a Proclamation signed by the Governor, the limits of the town of Curepipe were extended to include Floreal and certain other areas. A Resolution was also passed by the Legislative Council for the proclamation of Vacoas/Phœnix as a town.

Rural

A fresh start in rural local government was made in October, 1946, when a Civil Commissioner was appointed to take charge of the southern districts of Grand Port and Savanne. In May, 1947, a second Civil Commissioner was appointed for the northern districts of Pamplemousses and Rivière du Rempart, and a third Civil Commissioner for the districts of Moka and Flacq, assumed duty

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towards the end of 1948. In October, 1952, Black River was added to the districts for which the Civil Commissioner (South) was responsible. In September, 1955, a fourth Civil Commissioner was appointed to take charge of Black River District, the extra-urban areas of Plaines Wilhems and the southern extra-urban areas of Port Louis. The northern extra-urban areas of Port Louis are within the province of the Civil Commissioner (North). The Civil Commissioner is the principal administrative and executive officer of Government in his district and he is responsible for coordinating the whole machinery of Government. The Civil Commissioner is also responsible for the development of local government in his district and for ensuring the welfare of its inhabitants by all means at his disposal.

Village councils were first constituted in 1947. A few councils developed very rapidly indeed and were given government contracts for such services as scavenging and the upkeep of cemeteries. With funds provided by the Central Government, councils undertook road repairs, the construction of bridges, markets, public latrines creation of a day nursery and even a housing experiment. Not all and primary school buildings, improvements to water supplies, the village councils have reached the same standard.

New impetus was given to rural local government by the Village Councils and District Councils Ordinances which came into force in 1952. Regular elections and powers to raise taxes, own property and make bye-laws greatly enhanced the status of the village councils. The district council, which advises the Civil Commissioner on matters of policy, allocates funds to village councils and generally correlates their work, is able to raise certain taxes not applicable to any one village. At the end of 1952 district councils were set up in each of the three Civil Commissioners' districts following elections held under the Ordinance. In Plaines Wilhems/ Black River District a district council was constituted for the first time after the village council elections held in 1958.

At the end of 1959 there were 29 village councils in the South, 30 in Moka/Flacq, 30 in the North and 22 in Plaines Wilhems/ Black River.

Village councils consist of eight members elected on a liberal franchise and four members nominated by the Governor. District councils consist of the Civil Commissioner and thirteen other members. These members are: an elected member of the Legislative Council appointed by the Governor; a sugar estate manager

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appointed by the Governor from among those in the district; a president of a co-operative society elected by the presidents of co-operative societies in the district; representatives of the Medical, Education, and Public Works and Surveys Departments appointed by the Governor on the recommendation of the head of department; and seven chairmen of village councils elected by the chairmen of village councils in the district. The chairman of the district council is elected by the members from amongst their number and has so far been the Civil Commissioner. The Local Government Officer is the secretary and treasurer of the district council.

Sessional Paper No. 2 of 1956 on the development of rural local government in Mauritius was accepted by the Legislative Council in 1956 as providing a sound basis for such development. The Paper reviewed the present position in regard to rural local government by village and district councils and suggested the general lines on which the responsibilities and exercise of active citizenship in the rural areas could best be developed. The proposals made in this Paper were that *(a)* district and village councils should cease to be primarily agencies for the distribution of funds derived from the Central Government and should raise their own funds, *(b)* district and village councils should have appropriate trained staff, *(c)* by 1960 the direct participation of Civil Commissioners in the work of district councils, as members of those councils, should cease, and *(d)* representatives of Government departments should similarly cease to be members of district councils by nomination. Legislation to give effect to these proposals is still under consideration.

Local government forms part of the portfolio of the Minister of Local Government and Co-operative Development.

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Chapter 4: Weights and Measures

The metric system is in general use in the Colony. Certain French measures are still used in connection with measurements of land, the more common being:

1 French foot	=	1·06 English feet
1 Arpent	=	40,000 French square feet or 1·04 acres
1 Toise	=	6 French feet or 2 yards 4 inches

The following measures of capacity are also in use:

1 Bouteille	=	800 c.c. (liquid)
1 Chopine	=	half-bouteille
1 Corde	=	80 French cubic feet or 96·82 English cubic feet (used only to measure firewood).

A measure of length commonly used in the field is the *Gaulette* which is equivalent to 10 French feet. The term *livre* is used currently to mean half a kilogram.

The Weights and Measures Control Section of the Police Force is responsible for examining and stamping weights, scales, weighing machines, measures of length and measures of capacity. This section also deals with all inaccurate weights and measures seized by the uniformed Police and issues the necessary certificates for production in Court. The control of weighbridges on sugar estates is the responsibility of the Central Board constituted under the Sale of Canes (Control) Ordinance.

The amount of duty collected on weights and measures in 1960 was Rs 10,006.71 as compared with Rs 10,003 in 1959.

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Chapter 5: Reading List

A list of publications of general interest relating to Mauritius is given in Appendix IV.

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APPENDIX I

Capital Expenditure Programme 1957—1962

Allocations made in Sessional Paper No. 3 of 1959 as subsequently amended and Actual Expenditure in 1959-60

CENTRAL AND DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIONS

Allocation	*Total 1957-62*	*Actual Expenditure 1959-60*
	Rs	Rs
Central Administration	1,660,000	515,802
District Administration	268,800	53,188
Police	5,170,600	1,156,920
Fire Services	870,000	169,773
Broadcasting	1,228,000	218,804
Government Buildings	2,000,000	276,581
Training Scheme	875,000	—
Lesser Dependencies	1,000,000	—
Printing	230,000	115
Special (Mobile) Force	589,400	437,536
TOTAL	13,891,800	2,828,719

TREASURY, CUSTOMS AND EXCISE, MISCELLANEOUS LOANS AND SUBVENTIONS

Treasury	150,000	31,180
Customs and Excise	150,000	—
Miscellaneous Loans and Subventions	5,750,000	121,000
TOTAL	6,050,000	152,180

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Agriculture	19,783,200	2,414,412
Forests	862,000	27,518
Fisheries	715,000	108,879
TOTAL	21,360,200	2,550,809

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Education	23,781,300	2,879,970
Mauritius Institute...	90,000	13
Archives	16,733	2,809
TOTAL	23,888,033	2,882,792

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APPENDIX I—*continued*

Allocation	*Total 1957–62*	*Actual Expenditure 1959–60*
	Rs	Rs
HEALTH AND REFORM INSTITUTIONS		
Medical and Health	11,713,000	1,629,896
Prisons	643,000	160,195
Social Welfare	173,000	23,112
TOTAL	12,529,000	1,813,203
LABOUR AND SOCIAL SECURITY		
Public Assistance	415,000	36
WORKS AND INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS		
Water Supplies	8,212,000	1,962,043
Irrigation	9,150,000	600,089
Sewerage	21,490,000	1,106,484
Miscellaneous Works	4,001,900	503,919
Roads	25,611,000	3,003,181
Posts and Telegraphs	325,195	10,896
Traffic Licensing Authority	630,000	89,516
TOTAL	69,420,095	7,276,128
INDUSTRY, COMMERCE AND EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS		
Secondary Industries	3,600,000	83,241
Electricity	32,000,000	10,538,584
Harbour and Quays	10,793,500	299,241
Telecommunications	11,197,830	2,136,151
Meteorology	513,500	114.041
Civil Aviation	3,457,100	377,490
TOTAL	61,561,930	13,548,748
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT		
Local Government...	8,000,000	1,743,317
Co-operation	450,000	1,200
TOTAL	8,450,000	1,744,517
HOUSING, LANDS AND TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING		
Surveys	500,000	—
Town and Country Planning	75,000	—
Housing	10,000,000	900,000
TOTAL	10,575,000	900.000
Cyclone Emergency Expenditure	16,287,107	5,581.144
GRAND TOTAL	244,428,165	39,278,276

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APPENDIX II
(Part III—Chapter 3: Administration)
THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IN 1960

President

His Excellency Sir Colville Montgomery Deverell, K.C.M.G., C.V.O., O.B.E.

Robert Newton, Esq., C.M.G., during His Excellency's visits to the Dependencies.

Ex Officio Members

The Colonial Secretary

Robert Newton, Esq., C.M.G. until 26th September.

F. L. Simpson, Esq., (Acting) from 27th September to 2nd November.

T. D. Vickers, Esq., C.M.G. from 3rd November.

The Attorney General

M. Lavoipierre, Esq., from 23rd May to 18th December.

M. Rivalland, Esq., M.B.E. (Acting) until 22nd May and from 19th December.

The Financial Secretary

W. G. Wilson, Esq. until 10th February and from 3rd March to 29th April.

D . A. Kain, Esq., O.B.E. (Acting) from 11th February to 2nd March and from 30th April to 19th June.

A. F. Bates, Esq., C.M.G. from 20th June.

Appointed by the Governor

The Honourable A. Beejadhur, Minister of Education and Cultural Affairs.

The Honourable S. Boolell, Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The Honourable J. G. Forget, Minister of Health and Reform Institutions.

The Honourable F. Laventure, Minister of Local Government and Co-operative Development.

The Honourable A. R. Mohamed, Minister of Housing, Lands and Town and Country Planning.

The Honourable A. L. Nairac, C.B.E., Q.C., Minister of Industry, Commerce and External Communications.

Dr. The Honourable S. Ramgoolam, Ministerial Secretary to the Treasury until 29th April—Minister of Finance from 30th April.

The Honourable V. Ringadoo, Minister of Labour and Social Security.

The Honourable H. E. Walter, Minister of Works and Internal Communications.

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APPENDIX III

(Part III—Chapter 3: Administration)

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN 1960

Speaker

The Honourable H. R. VAGHJEE

Deputy Speaker

The Honourable P. G. R. RAULT, Nominated Member

Ex Officio Members

The Colonial Secretary

ROBERT NEWTON, ESQ., C.M.G., until 26th September

F. L. SIMPSON, ESQ., (Acting) from 27th September to 2nd November

T. D. VICKERS, ESQ., C.M.G. from 3rd November

The Attorney General

J. J. M. LAVOIPIERRE, ESQ., from 23rd May to 18th December

M. RIVALLAND, ESQ., M.B.E. (Acting) until 22nd May and from 19th December

The Financial Secretary

W. G. WILSON, ESQ., until 10th February and from 3rd March to 29th April

D. A. KAIN, ESQ., O.B.E. (Acting) from 11th February to 2nd March and from 30th April to 19th June

A. F. BATES, ESQ., C.M.G. from 20th June

Elected Members

The Honourable R. BALGOBIN, Member for Grand River South East

The Honourable D. BASANT RAI, Member for Vieux Grand Port

The Honourable A. BEEJADHUR, Member for Rivière du Rempart

Dr. the Honourable R. BHAGEERUTTY, Member for La Caverne

The Honourable S. BISSOONDOYAL, Member for Rose Belle

The Honourable S. BOOLELL, Member for Montagne Blanche

The Honourable J. E. CHANGKYE, Member for Port Louis South

The Honourable P. DABEE, Member for Savanne

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APPENDIX III—*continued*

The Honourable A. DAHAL, Member for Rivière des Anguilles
The Honourable J. S. E. DAVID, Member for Midlands
The Honourable J. R. DELAÎTRE, Member for Quatre Bornes
Dr. the Honourable W. R. DUPRÉ, Member for Port Louis West
The Honourable C. G. DUVAL, Member for Curepipe
The Honourable M. FOOGOOA, Member for Montagne Longue
The Honourable J. G. FORGET, Member for Belle Rose
The Honourable G. GANGARAM, Member for Black River
The Honourable V. GOVINDEN, M.B.E., Member for Souillac
The Honourable S. INDUR, Member for Stanley
The Honourable A. H. G. M. ISSAC, Member for Port Louis Central
The Honourable K. JAGATSINGH, Member for Petite Rivière
The Honourable R. JAYPAL, Member for Grand' Baie
The Honourable R. JOMADAR, Member for Flacq
The Honourable J. M. J. L. M. J. KŒNIG, Member for Beau Bassin
The Honourable G. KOORARAM, Member for Floréal
The Honourable L. O. LACAZE, Member for Port Louis North
The Honourable A. R. MOHAMED, Member for Port Louis East
The Honourable A. MOIGNAC, Member for Grand River North West
The Honourable D. NAPAL, Member for Pamplemousses
The Honourable A. H. M. OSMAN, Member for Phœnix
Dr. the Honourable S. RAMGOOLAM, Member for Triolet
The Honourable S. Y. R. RAMJAN, Member for Port Louis Maritime
The Honourable B. RAMLALLAH, Member for Poudre d'Or
The Honourable H. RAMNARAIN, Member for Piton
The Honourable M. J. J. R. REY, Member for Moka
The Honourable V. RINGADOO, Member for Quartier Militaire
The Honourable J. N. ROY, Member for Plaine Magnien
The Honourable R. SEWGOBIND, Member for Vacoas
Dr. the Honourable L. TEELOCK, Member for Bon Accueil
The Honourable H. E. WALTER, Member for Mahébourg
The Honourable J. H. YTHIER, Member for Rose Hill

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APPENDIX III—*continued*

Nominated Members

The Honourable J. E. M. L. AH-CHUEN

Dr. the Honourable L. R. CHAPERON

The Honourable C. C. DAVID

The Honourable L. R. DEVIENNE

The Honourable F. LAVENTURE

The Honourable M. A. D. R. MAIGROT, O.B. E.

The Honourable J. G. MARIE

The Honourable A. L. NAIRAC, C.B.E., Q.C.

The Honourable I. PEEROO

The Honourable M. J. A. E. PIAT (Deputy Chairman of Committees)

The Honourable P. G. R. RAULT

The Honourable M. R. G. ROCHECOUSTE

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APPENDIX IV

(Part III—Chapter 5: Reading list)

Leading Books on Mauritius

GENERAL

GENERALIA

UNIENVILLE, Marie Claude Antoine Marrier, *baron* d': Statisque de l'île Maurice et ses dépendances, suivie d'une notice historique sur cette colonie et d'un Essai sur l'île de Madagascar, Paris, G. Barba, 1838. 3 v.

A second edition was published in Port Louis, Typ. The Merchants and Planters Gazette, 1885–86, 3 vols, with phot. portr.

MAURITIUS. *Central Statistical Office.* Year Book of statistics. v. 1 (1946)—v. 13 (1958).

MACMILLAN, Allister, *ed*: Mauritius Illustrated. Historical and descriptive, commercial and industrial facts, figures, and resources. London, W. H. and L. Collingridge, 1914. 456, with numerous illus. and maps.

PRIDHAM, Charles. An historical, political and statistical account of Mauritius and its dependencies. London, T. and W. Boone, 1849. xiii, 410p.

WALTER, A. Chronological table of events in Mauritius, 1507–1916. Appendix to the Mauritius Almanac, (1917). Mauritius, The Mauritius Stationery and Printing Cy. Ltd., 1917. 57p.

Fairly complete for the period of British occupation.

CHAROUX Clément. Guide illustré de l'île Maurice. Port Louis. General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1936. 64, (32), IIp., illus.

TOUSSAINT, Auguste. Port Louis, deux siècles d'histoire, (1735–1935). Avec une Préface de Pierre Crépin, Docteur-ès-Lettres, Lauréat de l'Académie Française. Port Louis, La Typographie Moderne, 1936. (IX), 516p., with 50 plates and 9 maps.

Published on the occasion of the celebration of the bi-centenary of the foundation of Port Louis under the patronage of the Bi-centenary Committee, the Historical Records Committee and the Royal Society of Arts and Sciences of Mauritius. A very full account of the development of Port Louis.

BARNWELL, P. J. *and* TOUSSAINT, A. A short history of Mauritius. London, Longmans, Green & Co., 1949. 268p., illus.

SORNAY, Pierre de. Isle de France—Ile Maurice. Port Louis. The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1950. XIV, 550, XXVIIp., illus.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

TOUSSAINT, Auguste: Select bibliography of Mauritius. Port Louis. The Standard Printing and Stationery Establishment, 1951. 56p.

TOUSSAINT, A., *and* ADOLPHE, H. Bibliography of Mauritius (1502–1954), covering the printed record, manuscripts, archivalia and cartographic material. Port Louis, Esclapon Ltd. 1956. xvii, 884p.

TOUSSAINT, Auguste: Histoire de l'Ocean Indien. Paris, Presses Universitaires de France, 1960.

ADMINISTRATIVE

ADMINISTRATION AND POLITICS

RAE, William Charles, *Comp.*: A handbook on the constitution, practice and proceedings of the Council of Government of Mauritius. Mauritius, Central Printing Establishment, 1896. XXXIX, 228p.

SWETTENHAM, *Sir* Frank Athestane, *and others*: Report of the Mauritius Royal Commission, 1909, presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty, June 1910 (Cd.5185). London, Eyre and Spottiswoode Ltd., 1910.60, XIIIp.

Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence printed separately (Cd. 5186), 581p. Documents received by the Commission also printed separately (Cd. 5187), 135p.

SWINDEN, J. B.: Local Government in Mauritius. Mauritius Government Press, 1946. 25p.

Revision of the Constitution. Correspondence with the Secretary of State for the Colonies. Mauritius, Government Press, 1947. 18p.

Problems of Parliamentary Government in Colonies—A report by the Hansard Society.

The development of rural local government in Mauritius. 12p. (Sessional Paper No. 2 of 1956).

Constitutional development in Mauritius. 56p. (Sessional Paper No. 3 of 1956).

Correspondence on proposals for Constitutional Changes 5p., (Sessional Paper No. 3 of 1957).

EVE, Malcolm Trustram. Report of the Mauritius Electoral Boundary Commission 48p. (Sessional Paper no. 1, 1958).

SOCIAL

POPULATION

BEEJADHUR, Aunauth, Les Indiens à l'Ile Maurice. Port Louis, La Typographie Moderne, 1935. 126p.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

THORNTON WHITE, L. W. A master plan for Port Louis, Mauritius. South Africa, Cape Times Ltd., 1953. 89p., diag., plans.

UNIENVILLE, Noël, d': L'Ile Menacée. The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 109p., map. illus.

HERCHENRODER, M. *Chairman* Report of the Committee on population, 1953–54. 55p. (Sessional Paper no. 4, 1955).

MAURITIUS. *Central Statistical Office.* Natality and fertility in Mauritius, 1825–1955. 1956. 58p.

HAZAREESINGH, K. A history of Indians in Mauitius, Port Louis. The General Printing Establishment, 1950. 220pp.

SLAVERY

BERNARD, Eugène. Essai sur les nouveaux affranchis de l'Ile Maurice. Maurice, Imp. du Mauricien, 1834. 210p.

NOËL, Karl. La condition matérielle des esclaves à l'Ile de France, période française (1715–1810). *Revue d'Histoire des Colonies,* XL, 3e & 4e trimestre 1954, pp. 303–313.

TOUSSAINT, Auguste, *ed.* Les missions d'Adrien d'Epinay (1830–1834). Port Louis, The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1946. XXXII, 216p.

EDUCATION

MACQUET, Adolphe. L'instruction à l'Ile Maurice, ancienne Ile de France à l'origine de sa colonisation. Port Louis, Engelbrecht & Cie., 1890. 36p.

WARD, W. E. F.: Report on Education in Mauritius. Mauritius, Government Press, 1952. 58p.

Report of the Select Committee on the Ward Report on Education. Mauritius Government Press, 1953. 41p.

NICHOLS, A. E.: A report on secondary education in Mauritius. Mauritius, The Government Printer, 1949, 31, (2)p.

BENEDICT, Burton. Education without opportunity; education, economics and commulalism in Mauritius. University of London, Institute of Commonwealth Studies, Reprint no. 4. 15p. (from *Human Relations,* XI, 4(1958), 315–329).

ECONOMICS

ECONOMICS

ELLIOT, Ivo D. *and* LOUGHNANE, N. G. Financial situation of Mauritius. Report of a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, December, 1931. Presented by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to Parliament by Command of His Majesty, March, 1932. (Cmd. 4034). London H.M. Stationery Office, 1932. 285p., map.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

HOOPER, Charles Arthur, *and others*: Report of the Commission of enquiry into unrest on sugar estates in Mauritius, 1937. Mauritius, Government Press, 1938. XXIII, 253p.

LUCE, R. W. Report to the Government of Mauritius on Employment, unemployment and underemployment in the Colony in 1958 together with Report on an investigation into Wages and conditions of employment of labourers and artisans in the Sugar Industry (Sessional Paper No. 7 of 1958).

LUCE, R. W. A time for decision (Sessional Paper No. 8 of 1958).

MOODY, S., *and others* Report of the Commission of Enquiry into the disturbances which occurred in the North of Mauritius in 1943. London, n.d. 81p., 1 map.

COODE *and* PARTNERS Report on harbour facilities and suggested improvements at Port Louis, Mauritius. The Government Printer. 12p., 3 diags.

MAURITIUS. *Central Statistical Office.* The national income and national accounts of Mauritius, 1948–1954. Port Louis, Government Printing, 1956. 33p.

AGRICULTURE AND AGRONOMY

NORTH COOMBES, A. Tea in Mauritius, 1817–1944. *Revue Agricole de l'île Maurice,* vol. XXIII, No. 6, Nov. – Dec. 1944. p. 238–241.

An historical survey of the tea industry.

NORTH COOMBES, G. A. The fibre industry of Mauritius. Port Louis. The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1951. 85p.

MAURITIUS CHAMBER OF AGRICULTURE. The President's report for the year 1953–54. Centenary Number. The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1954. 117p. illus. tabs.

DUPAVILLON, F. Le manguier à l'île Maurice. Esclapon Ltd., ii, 130p.

SUGARCANE

WALTER, A. The sugar industry of Mauritius: a study in correlation. London, Arthur L. Humphreys, 1910. XVI, 228p.

NORTH COOMBES, A. The Evolution of Sugarcane Culture in Mauritius, with a chapter on the Evolution of the Mauritian Sugar Factory. Mauritius, General Printing, 1937, xv 197, illus., map.

SORNAY, Pierre de La canne à sucre à l'île Maurice. Paris Challamel, 1920. VIII, 677p., illus., maps.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

SORNAY, P. DE, and SORNAY, A. DE: Manuel de la canne à sucre à l'usage des chargés de cours et des éléves des grandes écoles coloniales. Port Louis, The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1952. 279p. 22.5cm.
A revised 2nd edition.

SCIENTIFIC

METEOROLOGY

HERCHENRODER, Marc. La pluie à l'Ile Maurice. l'Etude de soixante années d'observations. Préface de Maxime Kœnig. Maurice, The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1935. 61p.

BOTANY

BAKER, J. G.: Flora of the Mauritius and the Seychelles. London, L. Reeve & Co., 1877, 557p.

VAUGHAN, R. E. *and* WIEHE, P. O.: Studies on the vegetation of Mauritius. *Journal of Ecology*, London. 1937–1947.

HUBBARD, C. E. and VAUGHAN, R. E.: The grasses of Mauritius and Rodriguez. With a foreword by Sir Arthur W. Hill, Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. London, Waterlow & Sons, 1940. 128p., illus.

ZOOLOGY

BAISSAC, J. de B.: Poissons de l'île Maurice. *Proceedings Royal Society of Arts and Sciences of Mauritius*, 1950.

HACHISUKA, M.: The Dodo and kindred birds of the Mascarene Islands. London, Witherby, 1953, 250p., illus.

MAMET, R.: Cococoidea of Mauritius. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1949.

MAMET, R.: Hemiptera of Mauritius. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1957.

ROUNTREE, F. R. G. *and others*: Birds of Mauritius. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1952.

STRICKLAND, H. E. *and* MELVILLE, H. E.: The Dodo and its kindred; or the history, affinities and osteology of the Dodo, Solitaire and other extinct birds of the islands Mauritius, Rodriguez and Bourbon. London, Reeve, Benham and Reeve, 1848. 142p., 9 woodcuts, 16 plates.

VINSON, J.: Lepidoptera of the Mascarene Islands. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1938.

VINSON, J.: Coleoptera of Mauritius and Rodriguez. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1956.

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WHEELER, DR. J. F. G. and OMMANNEY, DR. F. D.: Report on the Mauritius—Seychelles fisheries survey, 1948–49. London, H.M.S.O. 1953. 145p.

WILLIAMS, J. R.: Hymenoptera of Mauritius. ***Mauritius Institute Bulletin,*** 1958.

ART

BRADSHAW, T.: Views in the Mauritius, or Isle of France, drawn from nature by T. Bradshaw, and on stone by William Rider, of Leamington; with a memoir of island, and a description of each view. London, James Carpenter & Son, 1832. 40 plates.

LITERATURE

GENERAL

ITHIER, J. J. Wasley. La littérature de langue française à l'Ile Maurice. Paris, Lib. M.Lac, 1930. 288p.

ROSNAY, Edouard Fromet de. Table Ovale — Poètes créoles: anthologie mauricienne; galerie poétique de l'Ile de France, 1803–1897. Port Louis, The Planters Gazette, 1897. 522p.

LITERARY PRODUCTIONS: French

CHAROUX, Clément: L'Ile Maurice au temps des diligences. Port Louis, General Printing and Stationery Co. Ltd., 1932. 81p.

GUEVIN, Charles. Les savanaises, 1856–1866. T.I. and T.II. Port Louis, Typ. Mercantile Record, 1883; The Merchants and Planters Gazette, 1891.

HART, Robert-Edward: Mer Indienne, poèmes. Port Louis, General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1925. 82p.

LAGESSE, Marcelle. La diligence s'éloigne à l'aube. Port Louis, Esclapon, 1958. 252p.

LAGESSE, Marcelle. Le vingt floral au matin. Paris, Julliard, 1960.

L'HOMME, Léoville. Poésies et poèmes. Port Louis, Esclapon, 1927. 142p.

MASSON, Loys: L'étoile et la clef. Paris, Gallimard, 1946. 366p.

SAINT PIERRE, Jacques Henri, Bernardin de. Paul et Virginie.

First published in 1788 and since then often reprinted. The finest French edition is that of Curmer, Paris, 1838. A number of English and American translations are available.

STYLET, [Selmour AHNEE]. Fagots. 2v. Port Louis, Mauritius Printing Cy. Ltd., 1953, 1954. 288p. 330p.

LITERARY PRODUCTIONS: English

MALIM, Michael. Island of the Swan. London, Longmans, Green & Co. 1952. 232p.

OMMANEY, F. D. The Shoals of Capricorn. London, Spottiswoode, Ballantyne & Co. Ltd., 1952. 322p. illus.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

HISTORICAL

EARLY HISTORY

PITOT, Albert. T'Eylandt Mauritius. Esquisses historiques (1598–1710), précédées d'une notice sur la découverte des Mascareignes et suivies d'une monographie du Dodo, des Solitaires de Rodrigues et de Bourbon et de l'Oiseau Bleu. Maurice, Coignet frères & Cie., 1905. 372p.

The only complete history of Mauritius during the Dutch period.

VISDELOU-GUIMBEAU, G. de: La découverte des îles Mascareignes. Port Louis, the General Printing and Stationery Cy Ltd., 1949. 65p., illus.

CHAPUISET LE MERLE, André de. Précis d'histoire de l'Ile Maurice, XVe au XVIIIe siècle, Port Louis, Nouvelle Imprimerie Coopérative, 1950. 225p., illus.; maps.

FRENCH HISTORY

PITOT, Albert. L'Ile de France. Esquisses historiques (1715–1810) Port Louis, E. Pezzani, 1899. III, 447p.

MAHÉ DE LABOURDONNAIS, B. F. Mémoire des Iles de France et de Bourbon. Edité par Albert Lougnon et Auguste Toussaint. Paris, E. Leroux, 1937. IX, 204p.

The first complete edition of Labourdonnais' report to the French East India Company on his administration of Mauritius from 1735 to 1740, from the manuscript preserved in the Curepipe Carnegie Library, Mauritius.

PRENTOUT, Henri. L'Ile de France sous Decaen, 1803–1810, Paris Hachette, 1901. XIV 688p., front.

TOUSSAINT, A. *ed.* Early American Trade with Mauritius (Mauritius Archives Publications Esclapon Ltd. 86p.

UNIENVILLE, J. Raymond M. d'. Last years of the Isle de France (1800–1814) through texts compiled and presented by J. Raymond d'Unienville, Port Louis, The Mauritius Printing Co. Ltd., 1959. 244p. illus.

CHELIN, A. Le théâtre à l'Ile Maurice: son origine et son développement. The Mauritius Printing Cy. Ltd. *(Société de l'Histoire de l'Ile Maurice,* No. 5). iii, 109p.

LY-TIO-FANE, Madeleine, *ed.* Mauritius and the Spice trade: the odyssey of Pierre Poivre. (Publication No. 4 of the Mauritius Archives Publication Fund Committee). Esclapon Ltd., 1958. 148p., illus.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

BIOGRAPHY AND MEMOIRS

Dictionary of Mauritian Biography, *ed.* by Dr. A. Toussaint. Publication of Société de l'Histoire de l'Ile Maurice. 25 parts.

MAURE, André. Souvenirs d'un vieux colon de l'Ile Maurice renfermant tous les événements qui lui sont arrivés depuis 1790 jusqu'en 1837, époque du bill d'émancipation, ce qui renferme une période de 46 ans, dédiés à Sir Walter Minto Farquhar, baronet, gouverneur et capitaine-général des Iles Maurice et dépendances. La Rochelle, Typ. de Frédéric Boutet, 1840. (VI), 526p.

BIJOUX, J. O. Rémy Ollier, sa vie et son oeuvre. Jugement de la postérité. Port Louis, Nouvelle Imprimerie Co-opérative, 1910. 452p., 1 plate.

Rémy Ollier was prominent among those who struggled for the abolition of the colour bar in Mauritius in the first half of the 19th century.

CREPIN, Pierre. Mahé de Labourdonnais. Paris, E. Leroux, 1922. XXXVI, 488p., illus., maps.

Thesis submitted for the degree of *Docteur-ès-Lettres* of the University of Paris. Labourdonnais was one of the most successful French governors of Mauritius.

DELAPLACE, Rev. Père F. Le Père Jacques-Désiré Laval, apôtre de l'Ile Maurice, 1803–1864, *ed.*, revue et augmentée par le Père J. M. Pivault. Paris, Gabriel Beauchesne, 1932. XLVI, 396p. XII.

OLMSTED, J. M. D. Charles Edouard Brown-Séquard; a nineteenth century neurologist and endocrinologist. Baltimore, the Johns Hopkins press, 1946. 253p. front.

GEOGRAPHICAL

GEOGRAPHY

ARDILL, R. H. A School Geography of Mauritius. Mauritius Government Press, 1945. 55p., maps and diagrams.

Guide Bleu. Madagascar, Comores, Réunion, Ile Maurice; établi par Claude Janicot. Paris, Hachette, 1955. 7th Section, pp. 405–422.

TRAVELS

LEGUAT, François. Voyage et aventures de François Leguat et de ses compagnons en deux îles désertes des Indes Orientales, avec la relation des choses les plus remarquables qu'ils ont observées dans l'Isle Maurice, à Batavia, au Cap de Bonne

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

Espérance, dans l'isle de Ste. Hélène et en d'autres endroits de leur route. Londres, David Mortier, 1708. 2 vols. with plates and maps.

English edition with notes by Captain Pasfield Olivier for the Hakluyt Society. London, 1891, 2 vols.

SAINT PIERRE, Bernardin de: Voyage à l'Isle de France, à l'Isle de Bourbon, au Cap de Bonne Espérance . . . par un officier du Roi. Paris, Merlin, 1773. 2v.

BORY DE ST VINCENT, J. B. G. M. Voyage dans les quatre principales îles des mers d'Afrique, fait par ordre du gouvernement, pendant les années neuf et dix de la République (1801–1801) avec l'histoire de la traversée du Capitaine Budin jusqu'au Port Louis de l'Ile Maurice. Paris, F. Buisson, 1804. 3v. 1 atlas.

BILLIARD, Auguste. Voyage aux colonies orientales, ou lettres écrites des Iles de France et de Bourbon pendant les années 1817, 1818, 1819 et 1820 à M. le Cte. de Montalivet. Paris, Ladvocat, 1822. XIX, 406p.

BACKHOUSE, James. A narrative of a visit to the Mauritius and South Africa. London, Hamilton, Adams & Co., 1844 xvi, 648p. lvip.

RYAN, Vincent W. Mauritius and Madagascar; journals of an eight years' residence in the diocese of Mauritius and of a visit to pendant les années neuf et dix de la République (1801–1802) ix, 340p.; illus.

PIKE, Nicholas. Sub-tropical rambles on the land of the Aphanapteryx, personal experiences, adventures and wanderings in and around the island of Mauritius. London Sampson Low, Marston and Searle, 1873. (II), XVIII, 512p., illus., 15 plates, maps.

9616/7, 61—1,527

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SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES GREETING A LADY MEMBER OF A VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION HELPING IN THE PREPARATION OF PARCELS FOR CYCLONE VICTIMS

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SUGAR CANE UP-ROOTED AND BROKEN BY CYCLONES IN THE DISTRICT OF MOKA

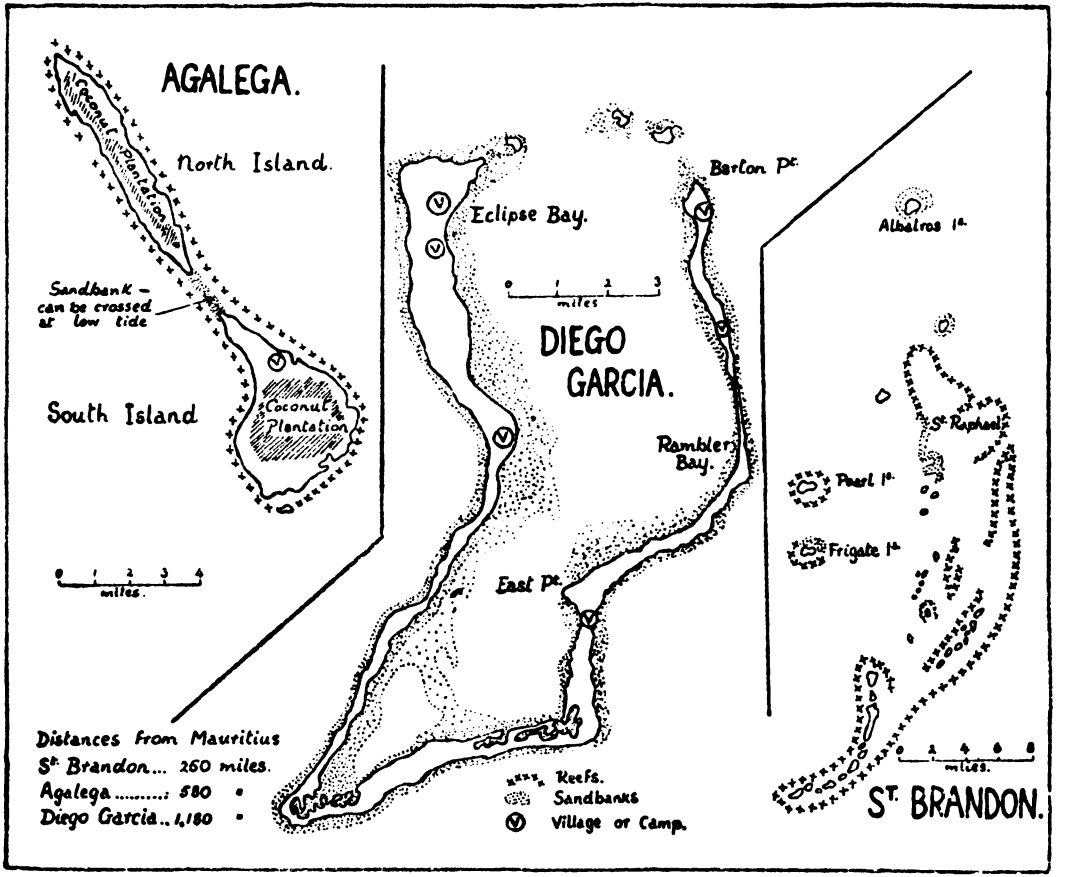
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PATHÉ PALACE CINEMA AT CUREPIPE BLOWN DOWN BY CYCLONE CAROL

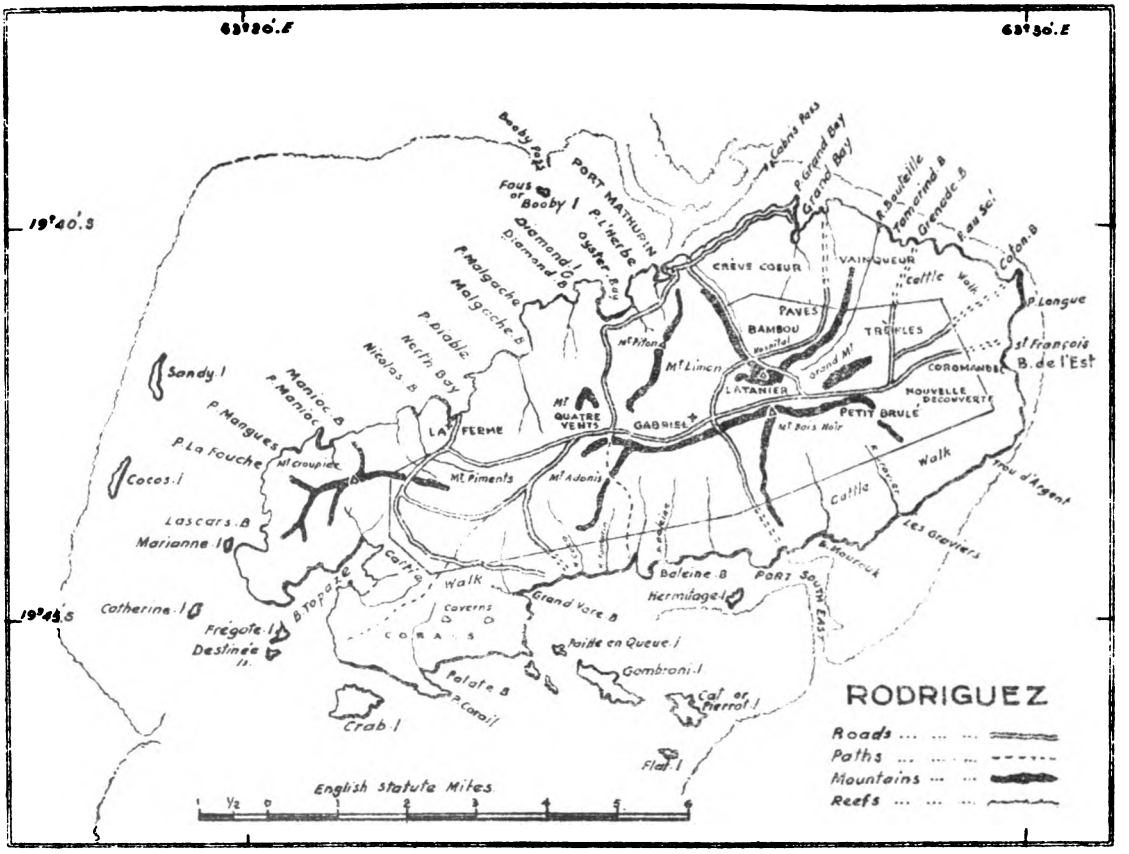
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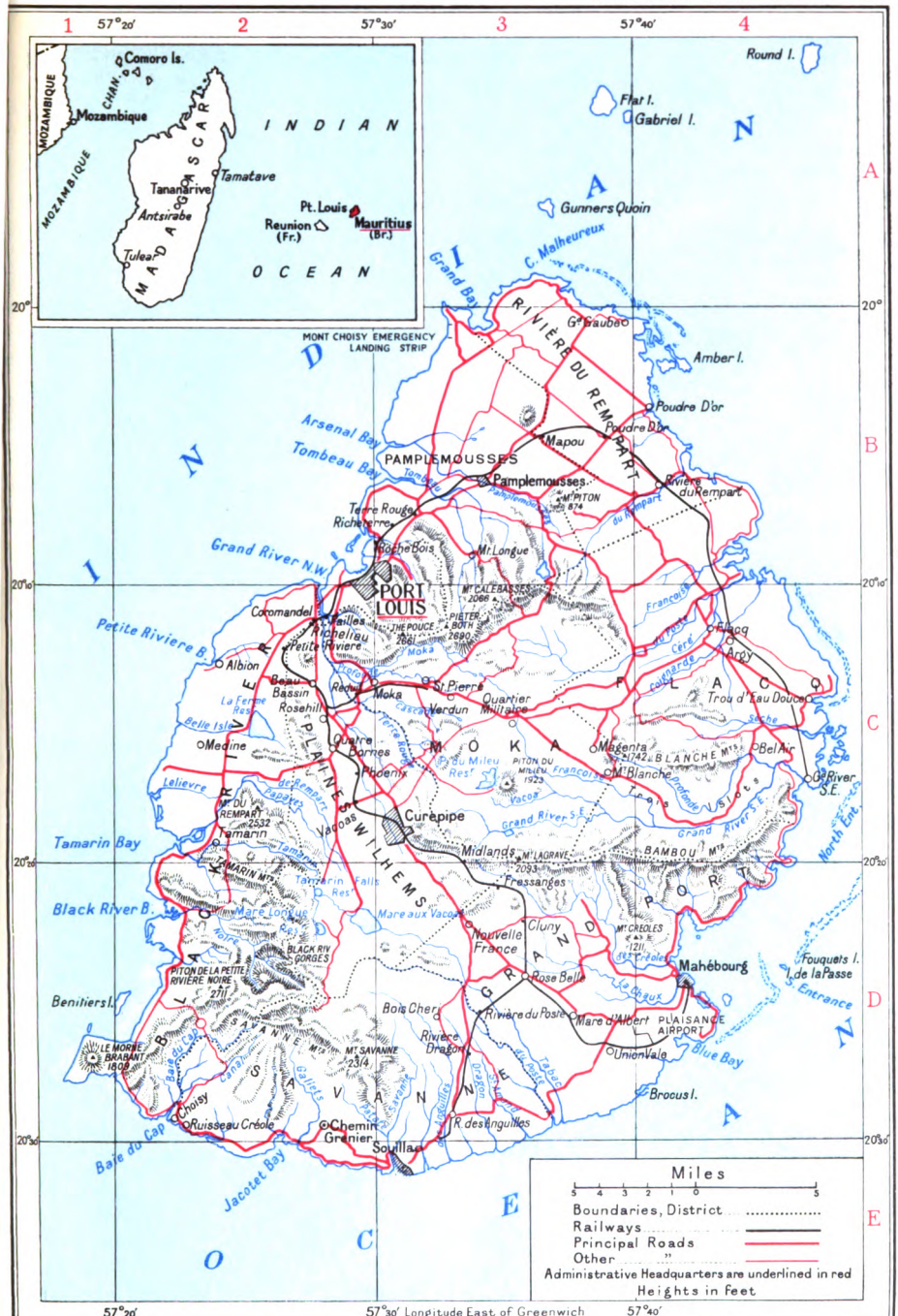
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63°30'.E
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Booby Pt.
Fous or Booby I.
PORT MATHURIN
Pte. l'Herbe
Oyster Rks.
Diamond I.
Diamond B.
Malgache B.
Nicolas B.
North Bay
Sandy I.
Manioc B.
Manioc
Mangues
La Fouche
Mt. Croupier
Cocos I.
Lascars B.
Marianne I.
Catherine I.
Frégate I.
Destinée I.
Topaze B.
Cattle Walk
Caverns
CORAIS
Crab I.
Flat I.
Grand Vate B.
Paille en Queue I.
Gombrani I.
Cat or Pierrot I.
Palate B.
Pte. Corail
Hermitage I.
Baleine B.
PORT SOUTH EAST
Grand Bay
Pte. Grand Bay
A. Cabris Pass
Fameréad B.
Grenade B.
Pte. Beuzeville
Pte. au Sel
Colon B.
CRÈVE COEUR
VAINQUEUR
Cattle Walk
Pte. Longue
St. François
B. de l'Est
PAVES
BAMBOU
Hospital
TRÈFLES
Mt. Tritons
Mt. Limon
Grand Mt.
CORMANDEL
LATANIER
NOUVELLE DECOUVERTE
PETIT BRULÉ
Mt. Bois Noir
Mt. QUATRE VENTS
GABRIEL
LA FERME
Mt. Piments
Mt. Adonis
Cattle Walk
Trou d'Argent
Les Greviers
Pte. Mourouk
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Paths
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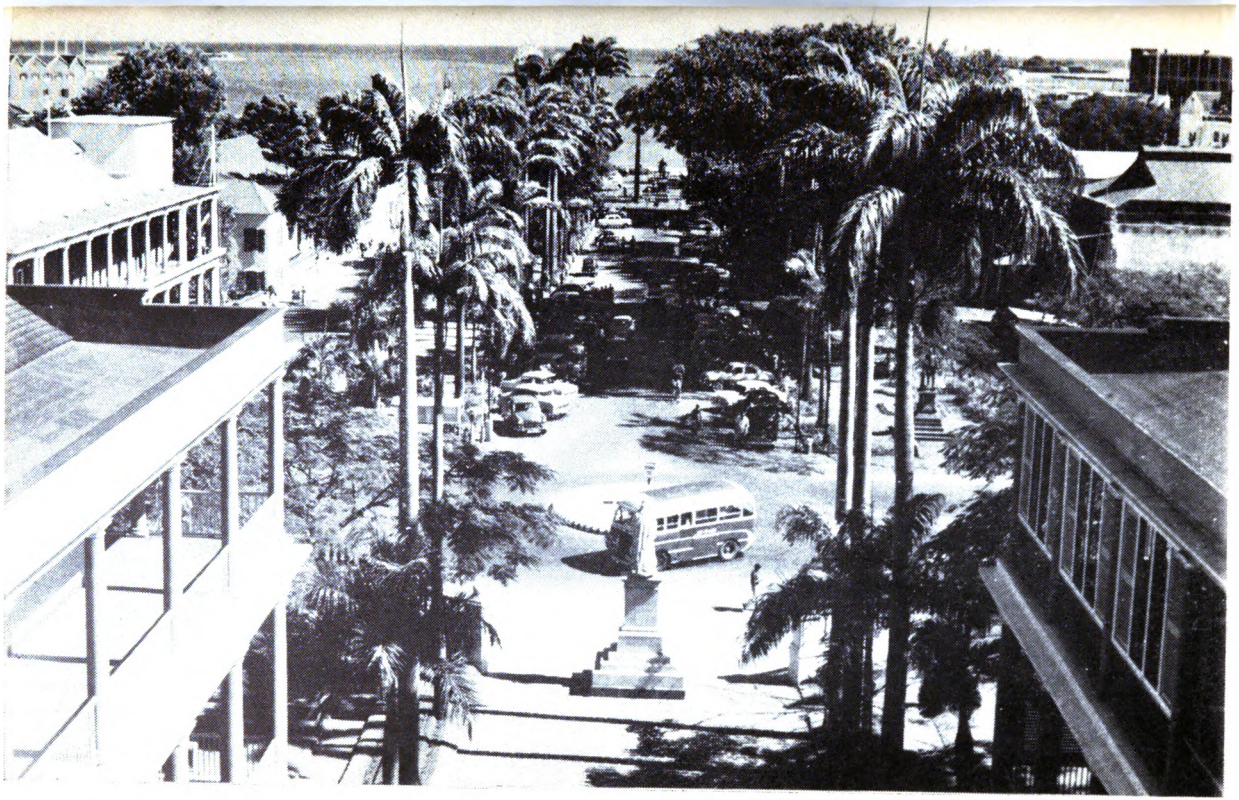
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THE CENTRAL AVENUE OF PLACE D'ARMES LEADING FROM THE HARBOUR TO GOVERNMENT HOUSE. THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE STATUE OF QUEEN VICTORIA IN THE FOREGROUND WAS LAID BY H. R. H. THE DUCHESS OF CORNWALL AND YORK ON 5TH AUGUST, 1901

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PART I

Review of the Year 1961

POLITICAL

At the invitation of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, representatives of the Mauritius Labour Party, the Independent Forward Bloc, the Muslim Committee of Action, the Parti Mauricien and two Independent Members of the Mauritius Legislative Council met in London from 26th June to 7th July to exchange views on the present constitution and to discuss the extent, the form and timing of any changes. Sir Colville Deverell, the Governor, and Professor S. A. de Smith, the Constitutional Commisioner, were present throughout the talks. As a result of the discussion Her Majesty's Government decided on two stages of advance. The first stage provided for the appointment as Chief Minister of the Leader of the Majority Party in the Legislature, who would be consulted by the Governor on such matters as the appointment and removal of Ministers, the allocation of portfolios and the summoning, proroguing and dissolution of the Council. An additional unofficial Ministerial post would be created, responsible for Posts and Telegraphs, Telecommunications, the Central Office of Information, and the Broadcasting Service. The Colonial Secretary would be re-styled Chief Secretary. The second stage of constitutional advance envisaged represented the broad basis of the constitution which might be adopted after the next General Election and in the light of that Election if, following an affirmative vote by the Legislative Council, it was recommended to the Secretary of State by the Chief Minister. Before the end of the year steps were taken to implement the first stage of the agreed reforms. On the resumption of the Third Session of the Legislative Council at the end of September Dr. the Honourable S. Ramgoolam, the Leader of the Majority Party in the Legislative Council, assumed the title of Chief Minister. At the end of December the Governor signed Proclamations bringing the Mauritius Letters Patent, 1961, the Mauritius (Constitution) (Amendment) Order in Council 1961 and the Colonial Secretary (Change of Title) Ordinance 1961 into force from the 1st January, 1962. Plans were made to appoint an additional unofficial Minister, and to establish the new Ministry of Information, Posts and Telegraphs and Telecommunications as soon after the New Year as possible.

Following the policy of integration of Ministries and Departments, the Ministry of Labour and Social Security was integrated with the Departments of Labour and of Public Assistance.

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On 27th September the Honourable P. G. R. Rault, M.L.C., Nominated Member, resigned his post of Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Council: on 3rd October, the Honourable C. C. David, M.L.C. Nominated Member, was elected to succeed him.

Economic and Financial

The negotiated price under the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement was £45-2-0d per ton. The gross value of sugar exports was of the order of Rs 269,500,000. The negotiated price for the calendar year 1962 has been fixed at £45-15-3d.

Tea production at 2,809,034 lbs showed an increase of some 1,076,159 lbs; exports at 1,576,534 lbs also showed an increase of 1,111,446 as compared with 1960. This increase in production and exports was the result of improvements and of absence of cyclones in 1961.

The closing of the Colony's accounts for the year 1960–61 showed a surplus of Rs 5.9 million against an estimated surplus of Rs 9 million, expenditure having been overestimated Rs 3.6 million and revenue underestimated by Rs 1.4 million.

In view of the cyclones which ravaged the Island in early 1960, the previous Development Programme for the period 1957–62 has been wound up and replaced with effect from the 1st July, 1960, by a five-year Reconstruction and Development Programme estimated to cost Rs 354 million.

The main sources of finance envisaged for the new Programme are:—

	Rsm
Local Resources	148
Colonial Development and Welfare Funds ...	24
Loans and Grants from Colonial Services Vote ...	29
Loans and Grants from H. M. G. for low cost housing programme	49
Potential assistance from H. M. G.	29
Potential assistance from external sources ...	50
TOTAL ...	329

leaving a gap of Rs 25m only. The amount of Rs 24m from Colonial Development and Welfare funds includes the territorial allocation of Rs 10m under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act 1959 and a balance of Rs 6m from the territorial allocation under the 1955 Act.

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The programmed expenditure can be broken down into five main sectors:—

		Rsm
Administration ...	...	17.5
Economic Services	...	51.8
Infra-Structure ...	...	139.8
Social Services ...	...	129.6
Other Expenditure	..	15.3
TOTAL	...	354.0

The new Programme is intended to provide to a large extent for cyclone repair and reconstruction works and for the construction of cyclone proof houses; it provides also for the continuation of the most important development works started under the previous Programme, viz. improvement of Port Louis Harbour, construction of a new trunk road, improvement of the Plaisance Airport and construction of a sewerage system in the congested areas of the island.

Substantial allocations have also been included for loans to enable secondary industry to develop upon the Island, for agricultural development particularly for the expansion of the tea industry and for the development of domestic water supplies.

SOCIAL SERVICES

During the post cyclone year the Central Housing Authority and the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund have initiated housing schemes and for these schemes the Health Department has laid down the requirements from the aspect of sanitation.

During the year the vaccination of babies as soon as they reach the age of three months with the D.P.T. Polio (quadruple vaccine) from Canada has become a regular feature in 55 permanent vaccination centres. The scheme is working well with excellent response from mothers.

Alterations and improvements to hospitals have continued throughout the year. At Civil Hospital the construction of a new kitchen and stores block is progressing and the former out-patient block has been converted into a mess room for the nursing staff. At Brown Sequard Hospital a private block of 12 beds has been completed. At Victoria Hospital one of the Medical Officer's quarters has been converted into a ward for chronic orthopaedic cases. In the 3 rural hospitals of Souillac, Flacq and Mahebourg work has started on an additional 16 bed ward. At Mahebourg the present steward's quarters are being converted into a Maternity Unit of 20 beds.

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Two new Health Centres, one at Vacoas and one at Curepipe, and a new Dental Clinic at Rose Hill have been completed and have started functioning.

The infantile mortality rate (62.0), the maternal mortality rate (1.14) and the death rate (9.9) are the lowest on record.

Help from the W.H.O. continued in respect of the scheme for the Eradication of Malaria and Tuberculosis.

Public Utilities

Construction of the first carriageway of a new trunk road between Phoenix and Port Louis, for which a contract was let in December 1959, was about 70 per cent complete by the end of the year. The road is designed as a dual carriageway and in December the decision was announced to proceed with the construction of the second carriageway. The road is 7½ miles long and the project includes a pre-stressed concrete bridge, 366 feet long between abutments, across the Moka gorge.

The public railway system, which is used for the conveyance of goods only, again ran at a loss. Bus services continued to improve and public service vehicle licences were granted by the Road Traffic Licensing Authority on several additional bus routes. The number of buses had increased at the end of the year to 466. A daily average of 129,000 passengers travelled by bus.

Production of electricity rose to a record figure of 63.2 million units, an increase of 15.5% over 1960. Because of prolonged drought conditions, thermal generation accounted for 53% of total production—a very high proportion, with consequent financial repercussions. Surplus power purchased from Sugar Estates amounted to 9.9 million units, or 15% of total requirements. Substantial progress was made towards providing new generating capicity for the future. Two new hydro stations, Magenta and Eau Bleue, commenced production during the year, construction work started on Cascade Cecile hydro station, and planning and design proceeded for a new thermal station at Fort Victoria, which is due for commissioning in 1963.

The Public Service

The moratorium of two years during which the Government would not accept requests for recognition from new Civil Service staff associations and trade unions came to an end on the 9th November, 1961. It was decided that future claims for recognition either at national or departmental level would be submitted for consideration in the Central Whitley Council in the first instance.

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A CLOSE-UP VIEW OF THE INTERIOR OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HALL.
THE CHIEF MINISTER ADDRESSING THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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The Sub-Committee of the Central Whitley Council appointed at the end of 1960 to study claims for salary revision arising from the reports of Working Party No. 1 and of the Salaries Commissioner, Mr. R. J. C. Howes, M.B.E. reached a deadlock, as a result of which a Civil Service Arbitration Tribunal was appointed by His Excellency the Governor to deal with these claims. The Tribunal considered 37 statements of claim for salary revision submitted by the Staff Side of the Central Whitley Council, representing the Federation of Civil Service Unions, and made awards on 35. As regards the remaining two claims, one was rejected by the Tribunal and the other was settled by the Parties to the dispute by negotiation outside the Tribunal. The Awards of the Civil Service Arbitration Tribunal were published as Sessional Paper No. 7 of 1961 and were subsequently approved by the Legislature.

As a result of negotiations in the Central Whitley Council, it was decided that Hospital Servants as well as other categories of Manual Workers in certain Government departments should be converted from daily to monthly rates of pay on a basis of a 28-day month with effect from the 1st June, 1961.

DEPENDENCIES

The Honourable the Chief Justice visited Rodrigues in December, 1961 and presented an award to an employee of the Agricultural Department at an official parade. He also visited the island and saw the extensive agricultural development works.

Two mobile cranes were received at Port Mathurin in October 1961, the largest having a lifting capacity of four tons. An open petrol store has been established at English Bay.

HONOURS

Her Majesty the Queen was graciously pleased to approve the following appointments and awards on the occasion of the New Year and on Her Birthday:—

NEW YEAR

The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:
Officer: IAN GEORGE GUTHRIE SMITH, ESQ.
Member: MISS YOLANDE THOMASSE.

BIRTHDAY

Commander: LOUIS PIERRE RENÉ MAINGARD DE VILLE-ES-OFFRANS, ESQ.
Officer: DOCTOR MARC ANTOINE EMILE DUVIVIER, M.B.B.S. (London)
Members: MRS. MOIRA KNIGHT
MAX MOUTIA, ESQ.

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Certificates and Badges of Honour

His Excellency the Governor approved the following awards:

NEW YEAR

MARIUS GRENOUILLE, ESQ.: for public and social services.

EMMANUEL CATHERINE, ESQ.: for services to Local Government.

BIRTHDAY

PIERRE MICHEY LAVAL AH-KONG ESQ.: for services to Local Government.

ANDRÉ YVES CRETIN, ESQ.: for services to Local Government.

YVES GOODSIR, ESQ.: for services to the Co-operative movement in Rodrigues.

LIST OF VISITORS

MR. J. ARBUTHNOT, M.B.E., T.D., M.P. (Conservative Member)

MR. L.J. CALLAGHAN, M.P. (Labour Member)

MR. PETER HALKET

DR. J.F. LOCKWOOD (Master of Birbeck College, University of London)

MR. F.E.L. CARTER, C.B.E., Deputy Director-General of the Overseas Audit Service

MR. EDWARD CLUNIES ROSS, Director of the C.C.T.A. Inter African Community Development, Clearing House.

U SEIN KYI, Secretary Ministry of Trade Development,

U BA GLAY, Export Promotion Commissioner

U THEIN MAUNG, Manager Steel Bros & Co. Rangoon

MR. M. S. WILDE of W.H.O.

MR. T.S. WYATT, M.A., Assistant Secretary, University of Cambridge, Local Examinations Syndicate

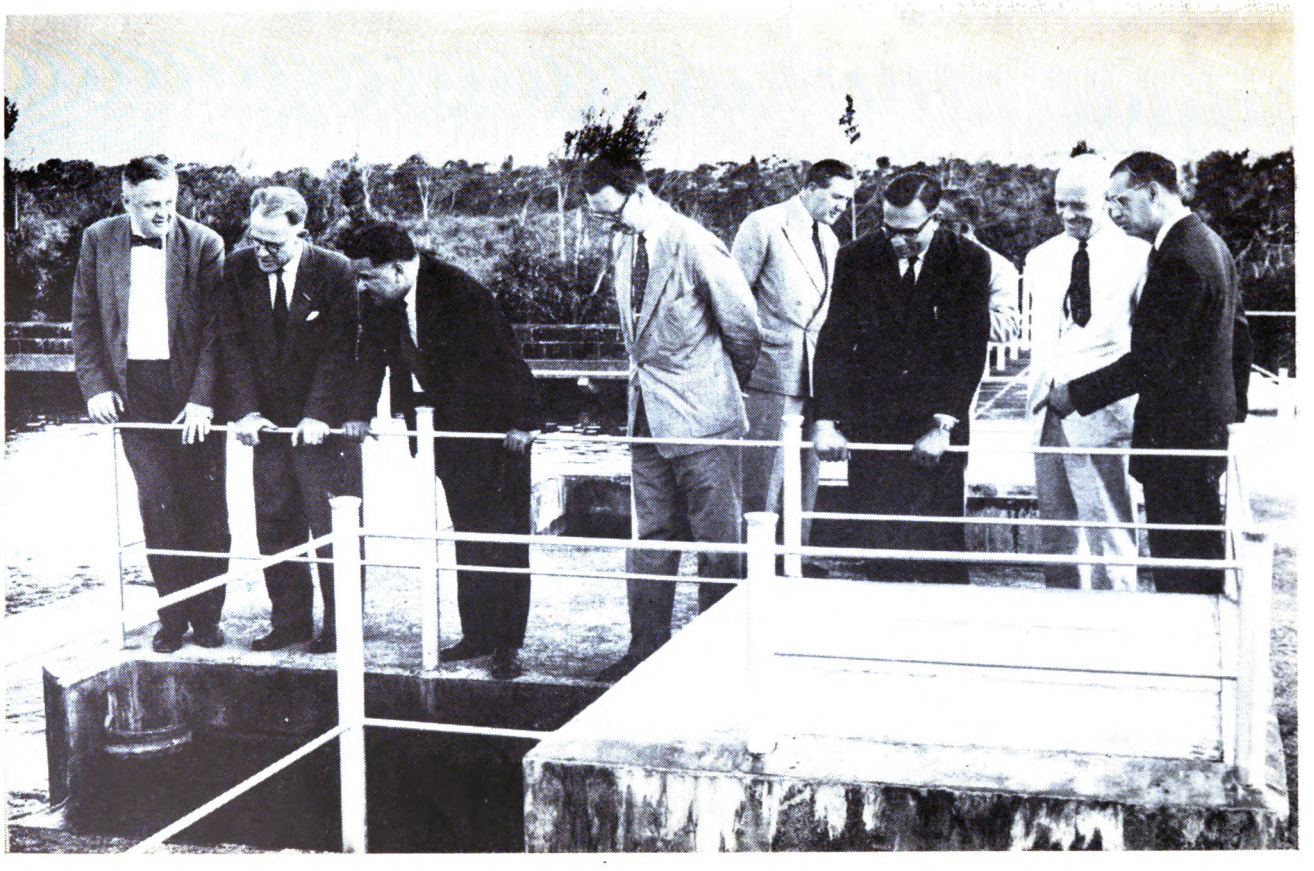
DR. F. FRIEDENSBURG, Ambassador of the German Federal Republic in Madagascar and Consul for Mauritius

MR. PAUL COURT (Vice President of the Junior Chamber International for Africa South of Sahara)

VISITING SHIPS

The Colony was visited by The Frigates H.M.S. *Lynx* in March and H.M.S. *Leopard* in August; by the Royal Netherlands Destroyer *Utrecht* in February and by the U.S.S. *Duxbury Bay* in March; and by the French Warship *Lapeyrouse* in January and by the two British Submarines *Teredo* and *Amphion* in December.

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VISIT OF HONOURABLE L. J. CALLAGHAN, M.P., LABOUR PARTY AND HONOURABLE J. S. W. ARBUTHNOT, M.P., CONSERVATIVE PARTY, TO LA MARIE FILTERS ON 31.10.61

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PART II

Chapter I: Population

A census of the population, which was taken during the night of the 28th—29th June, 1952, gave the following results:

Males ...	...	252,032
Females	...	249,383
TOTAL	...	501,415

The population of Mauritius as at the 31st December, 1961, was estimated therefrom at 667,246.

The natural increase, that is the excess of births over deaths in 1961 was 19,587, a number which is nearly 7 times the corresponding average for the five pre-war years (1935–39).

Civilian departures from the Colony exceeded arrivals by 1,179.

The average density of the population for the Island was 912 per square mile (calculated on the mid-year population).

BIRTHS

The number of live births during the year 1961 was 26,092 an increase of 785 on the number for 1960, but an increase of 2,103 on the yearly average number of births for the ten years ending with 1960:

Males	*Females*	*Total*	*Male births per 1,000 female births*
13,244	12,848	26,092	1,031

The following are the birth rates (per 1,000 of the mid-year population) for the last six years:

1956	*1957*	*1958*	*1959*	*1960*	*1961*
43.8	43.1	40.8	38.5	39.6	39.8

Still-births, which are not included as either births or deaths, numbered 1,963 (1,021 males, 942 females), corresponding to a rate of 7.5 per hundred live-births, as compared with 1,783 still-births, corresponding to a rate of 7.0 in 1960.

DEATHS

Deaths registered in Mauritius numbered 6,505, corresponding to a rate of 9.9 per 1,000 of the population. The month of maximum mortality was July with 621 deaths:

	Males	*Females*	*Total*
Number of deaths in 1961 ...	3,359	3,146	6,505
Rate per 1,000 of population	10·1	9·7	9·9

The average death rate for the period 1951–60 was 13.4.

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Infantile Mortality

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age during 1961 was 1,618 (1,760 in 1960). This number was considerably lower than in the quinquennial period 1944–48.

The following table shows the infantile mortality rate (i.e., the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live-births):—

Year	*Rate*
1944–1948 (average)	154·9
1953	93·5
1954	81·1
1955	67·2
1956	66·0
1957	75·1
1958	67·4
1959	62·5
1960	69·5
1961	62·0

Marriages

The following table gives the number of marriages for the last five years:

1957	*1958*	*1959*	*1960*	*1961*
2,903	3,169	3,297	3,113	3,481

Movement of the Civil Population

	Males	*Females*	*Total*
Arrivals ...	7,246	4,608	11,854
Departures...	8,165	4,868	13,033

These figures include the very small figure of engaged or discharged seamen, and emigrants and immigrants to and from the dependencies.

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Chapter 2: Occupations, Wages and Labour Organization

EMPLOYMENT

An analysis of employment in selected industries in September, 1961, under main industrial groups, is shown in the table below:—

Industry	Number of persons employed			
	Men	Women	Young persons*	Total
Agriculture	45,904	20,541	3,758	70,203
Mining and quarrying	102	40	2	144
Manufacturing	5,378	818	274	6,470
Construction	4,254	17	78	4,349
Electricity	870	59	17	946
Commerce	1,548	152	5	1,705
Transport, storage and communications	3,115	16	14	3,145
Services	—	—	—	20,345
			TOTAL ...	107,307

The main industry of the island is the growing of sugar as a plantation crop. Some 67,000 workers are employed in this industry during the harvest, or "crop" season, from July to December, and 54,000 during the intercrop season.

An analysis of employment in selected industries by main occupational groups in September 1961 is shown in the Table below:—

Industry	Administrative professional technical and clerical	Skilled and semi-skilled	Unskilled	Total
Agriculture	1,284	5,975	62,944	70,203
Mining and quarrying	6	17	121	144
Manufacturing	887	2,809	2,774	6,470
Construction	192	1,935	2,222	4,349
Commerce	1,492	40	173	1,705
Electricity	219	514	213	945
Transport, storage and communication	475	1,162	1,508	3,145
Services	9,519	10,826		20,345
			TOTAL ...	107,307

*i.e. persons under the age of 18 years

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Secondary industries include sack-making (from locally-produced aloe fibre), the manufacture of furniture, matches, clothing and footwear, printing, sawmilling, charcoal-burning, production of lime, and recovery of salt by the evaporation of sea water.

The number of persons registered by the Employment Service as unemployed and the number of persons placed in employment during 1961 was as follows:—

Month	*Persons registered*	*Persons placed*
January	2,101	235
February	2,046	178
March	2,189	80
April	2,135	77
May	2,358	176
June	2,462	91
July	2,370	167
August	2,088	194
September	1,985	99
October	2,328	104
November	2,906	160
December	2,362	127

Wages and Hours of Work

The range of average daily wages of the principal categories of workers in the various industries is shown in the following table:—

Category of workers	*Average daily wages Rupees*		*Average No. of hours actually worked per week*	
	Minimum	*Maximum*	*Minimum*	*Maximum*
Clerical	7.56*	19.95*	39.1	45.0
Labourers	3.40	6.00	38.5	45.0
Sirdars, foremen, contremaitres	5.15	8.90	39.6	45.6
Drivers (vehicle)	5.25	8.00	41.0	52.0
Bus conductors	6.15		49.5	
Mechanics and fitters	5.89	7.35	42.7	47.4
Electricians	4.60	7.75	41.0	48.0
Carpenters and joiners	6.00	7.85	44.0	46.5
Masons	6.80	7.50	44.3	45.8
Pan boilers	6.80		53.0	
Drivers (plant)	6.50		49.7	
Watchmen	4.25	5.20	42.0	110.0

* Base 1946 = 100

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The daily wage rates and weekly hours of work of manual workers in government employment were as follows:—

	Maximum wages	*Minimum wages*	*No. of hrs. worked per week*
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	
Foremen	13.10	9.00	45
Artisans	9.90	6,40	45
Hospital servants ...	6.20	5.20	45
Labourers	5.20	4.20	45

Most Government departments work from 9 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. on weekdays with a half-hour break for lunch, and from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. Others have adopted the five-day week, and work from 8.45 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a half-hour break. Business offices follow more or less the same practice.

Cost of Living

The Labour Department's Cost of Living Index figures* for agricultural labourers in the year 1961 were:—

January ...	... 150·0	July ...	... 150·6
February	... 152·1	August ...	... 150·9
March ...	... 151·4	September	... 149·2
April ..	... 150·6	October ...	... 148·4
May ...	... 150·6	November	.. 148·2
June ...	... 150·3	December	... 148·9

The Labour Department

The Labour Department can trace some link in the past with the Office of the Protector of Slaves, for that office was succeeded by the Bureau of the Protector of Immigrants and, when immigration had ceased, the Poor Law Commissioner occupied the building and also administered the Immigration Law. This law was thoroughly revised in 1878, and again in 1938. The same year an Ordinance legalised the existence of industrial associations and the Director of Labour was given certain powers for regulating the settlement of industrial disputes. The Employment and Labour Ordinance (Cap. 214) provides for the appointment of a Director of Labour and staff in order to " perform all duties imposed and exercise all powers conferred " on him by this Ordinance. The title of Director of Labour was later changed to that of Labour Commissioner.

*Base 1946=100

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The functions of the Department include the uniform administration of legislation relating to labour. By this means too, effect is given to the International Labour Conventions which have been applied to the Colony, the provisions of which have been incorporated in appropriate legislation and administrative instructions. Frequent inspections of places of work including factories are carried out, and camps in which workers are housed are similarly inspected. When necessary, proceedings are taken against alleged offenders in the Industrial Court.

Other duties include advice to employers and workers in matters relating to employment, assistance and advice to trade unions in the conduct of their affairs, promotion of the settlement of trade disputes through conciliation or other appropriate means, the maintenance of an Employment Exchange service, and the collection of statistics relating to labour.

The Department is organised into:—

The Headquarters, under the Labour Commissioner and the Deputy Labour Commissioner;

The Field Inspectorate under two Assistant Labour Commissioners;

The factory Inspectorate, under a Factory Inspector; and

The Employment Exchange, under a Manager.

The Registrar of Associations is also a member of the Staff of the Labour Department and deals with the registration of trade unions, associations and superannuation funds, as legally empowered under the Trade Union Ordinance (No. 36 of 1954), the Registration of Associations Ordinance (No. 45 of 1949) and the Employees Superannuation Fund Ordinance (No. 28 of 1954) respectively. The statutory powers and duties of the Registrar of Associations are not shared by the Labour Commissioner.

Trade Unions

There were at the end of June, 1961, sixty-eight trade unions consisting of 34 associations of employees in private employment, 23 of government servants, 9 of employers and 2 registered federations. The total membership on the rolls was 32,973 of which 31,074 were compliance members.

The larger workers' trade unions are:—

The Plantation Workers' Union (12,341 members),

The Agricultural Workers' Union (4,701 members),

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The Government Servants' and Other Employees' Association (1,715 members),
The Government Labour Power Union (950 members),
The Artisans and General Workers' Union (795 members),
The General Port, Harbour and Other Workers' Union (734 members),
The Union of Road Transport Employees (714 members),
The Electrical and Other Workers Union (586 members),
The Transport and General Workers' Union (585 members),
The Building Industry, Engineering and Other Workers Union (552 members),
The Artisans Taxi Drivers and Other Manual Labourers Union (506 members),
The Government and Non-Government Employees' Union (433 members),

The larger employers' trade unions are:—

The Mauritius Butchery Owners' Association (152 members),
The Mauritius Tobacco Producers' Syndicate (76 members),
The Mauritius Cane Growers' Association (44 members),
The Mauritius Sugar Producers' Association (21 members).

Labour Disputes and Settlements

Only one labour dispute involving a stoppage of work was reported during the year. This was of government hospital servants, who staged a one-day strike in support of their demand for recognition of their union. At the time a " stand-still " on the recognition of new unions was in force, by agreement between Government and the Central Whitley Council.

Social Security

(see also Chapter 7, Social Services)

Compensation is payable to injured workmen in accordance with the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance (Cap. 220). This Ordinance was amended during the year to provide increased benefits.

All monthly-employed workers aged eighteen years or over engaged in the sugar industry contribute to the Sugar Industry Pension Fund, set up under Ordinance No. 42 of 1955. Other statutory funds are operated under the provisions of the Employees Superannuation Fund Ordinance, No. 28 of 1954, and the Tobacco Board Employees Provident Fund Ordinance, No. 71 of 1950.

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A recent survey has shown that there are at least nineteen non-statutory provident funds, gratuity and pension schemes in existence, covering some 1,500 persons.

Industrial Training

The Apprenticeship Ordinance (No. 13 of 1946) governs contracts of apprenticeship. So far two industries have been designated under it, viz. ' that branch of trade in the engineering industry actually engaged in the manufacture and repair of machinery ' and ' that branch of trade in the automobile repairs industry actually engaged in the repair and maintenance of automobile machinery '. Legal ' Provisions ' have been promulgated under the Ordinance for the control of apprenticeship in these two trades, and Apprenticeship Committees have been set up.

The Technical Institute, run by the Education Department, provides once weekly day-release courses for the above-mentioned apprentices as well as full-time instruction for students.

Factories

The total number of registered factories on 31st December, 1961, was 381, including 22 sugar factories. This represents a decrease of 98 from last year, which is wholly accounted for by the fact that motor spirit filling stations are no longer registered as factories.

Legislation

The main body of labour legislation is contained in the following substantive enactments and their related subsidiary legislation:

The Boilers Ordinance	Cap. 209
The Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Ordinance	Cap. 211
The Employment and Labour Ordinance	Cap. 214
The Recruitment of Workers Ordinance	Cap. 218
The Safety of Dockers Ordinance	Cap. 219
The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance	Cap. 220
The Apprenticeship Ordinance	No. 13 of 1946
The Factories Ordinance	No. 42 of 1946
The Employment Exchanges Ordinance	No. 67 of 1947
The Registration of Associations Ordinance	No. 45 of 1949
The Employees Superannuation Fund Ordinance ...	No. 28 of 1954
The Trade Union Ordinance	No. 36 of 1954
The Trade Disputes Ordinance	No. 37 of 1954
The Regulation of Wages and Conditions of Employment Ordinance	No. 71 of 1961

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Ordinances relating to labour matters were enacted during the year as follows:—

No. 18 of 1961—The Ministry of Labour and Social Security (Integration) Ordinance. *(Brought into force on 1st January, 1962, by Proclamation No. 28 of 1961)*

No. 21 of 1961—The Employment and Labour (Amendment) Ordinance

No. 61 of 1961—The Shops (Amendment) Ordinance

No. 69 of 1961—The Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Ordinance

No. 71 of 1961—The Regulation of Wages and Conditions of Employment Ordinance

Government Notices relating to labour matters were published during the year as follows:—

No. 18 of 1961—The Wages Regulation (Baking Industry) Order 1961

No. 31 of 1961—The Shops Regulations, 1961

No. 66 of 1961—The Minimum Wages (Baking Industry) Regulations, 1961.

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Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

Revenue and Expenditure

The following tables give a comparison under the main heads of revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the years ended 30th June, 1939, 1960 and 1961.

Current Revenue

Main Head	*Year ended 30th June*		
	1939	*1960*	*1961*
	Rs	*Rs*	*Rs*
I. Direct Taxes	1,036,451	42,247,365	43,436,904
II. Indirect Taxes	11,411,317	71,238,207	82,846,342
III. Receipts from Public Utilities ...	1,390,767	7,759,451	8,126,319
IV. Receipts from Public Services ...	1,082,113	5,510,941	6,974,908
V. Rental of Government Property...	229,221	1,052,691	1,339,413
VI. Interest and Royalties	486,474	3,157,529	4,001,956
TOTAL ...	15,636,343	130,966,184	146,725,842

Capital Revenue

L. Transfer from Recurrent Budget	—	6,500,000	7,500,000
LI. Transfer from Revenue Reserve Fund	—	—	4,198,782
LII. Capital Receipts, Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes	15,858	753,192	4,198,782
LIII. Capital Receipts, sale of Government Properties	329	16,476	9,615
LIV. Tax Reserve Certificates	—	—	—
LV. Loans or Advances pending Loans	—	28,984,856	12,553,016
LVI. Miscellaneous, including Grants	—	334,240	275,751
LVII. Grants	—	—	10,733,333
LX. Interest on Investments	—	1,068,102	710,132
Repayment of Loans and Advances	2,198,308	—	—
TOTAL ...,	2,214,495	37,656,866	35,980,629

Current Expenditure

Main Vote	*Year ended 30th June*		
	1939	*1960*	*1961*
	Rs	*Rs*	*Rs*
1—1. Governor	82,659	236,872	220,916
1—2. Judicial	402,390	1,268,073	1,320,036
3. Legislature	12,889	653,518	668,347
4. Office of the Attorney General	99,564	276,679	260,729
5. Audit	79,185	360,171	368,841
6. Public Service Commission ...	—	138,912	157,979
7. Office of the Colonial Secretary	88,893	1,223,624	1,425,803
8. Central Information Office ...	—	254,621	307,484
9. Defence	935,903	2,059,500	1,179,892
Carried forward ...	1,701,483	6,471,970	5,910,027

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Main Vote	Year ended 30th June 1939 Rs	1960 Rs	1961 Rs
Brought forward ...	1,701,483	6,471,970	5,910,027
10. District Administration ...	—	241,060	250,389
11. Ecclesiastical	211,914	563,296	682,814
12. Fire Services	—	925,057	941,768
13. Mauritius Broadcasting Service and Globe Reuter News Service	—	523,660	520,803
14. Police	970,903	7,314,269	7,251,759
15. Printing Department... ...	107,772	742,224	725,825
16. Rodrigues	—	2,081,333	2,126,904
17. Police Service Commission ...	--	40,446	45,214
2—1. Office of the Ministry of Finance	—	344,490	364,934
2. Accountant General	197,112	4,721,432	5,132,572
2a. Miscellaneous	1,107,217	—	—
3. Central Statistical Office ...	—	216,076	261,687
4. Contributions	—	10,500,000	7,500,000
5. Customs and Excise	—	1,949,915	2,207,448
5a. Customs, Harbour, Port and Marine	613,206	—	—
6. Income Tax	—	498,688	500,855
7. Public Debt	2,292,014	6,954,663	8,600,264
8. Public Service Pensions ...	1,695,428	9,824,413	9,443,598
9. Registrar General	113,897	309,202	296,940
3—1. Office of the Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources	—	105,409	131,636
2. Agriculture	542,286	3,785,022	5,280,264
3. Forests	203,331	2,475,850	2,214,547
4—1. Office of the Minister of Works and Internal Communications	—	111,659	160,592
2. Architectural	—	324,072	334,004
3. Posts and Telegraphs ...	322,521	1,842,550	2,003,660
4. Public Works and Surveys Establishment	340,007	3,766,845	3,217,169
5. Public Works Annually Recurrent	1,039,379	7,683,851	7,537,721
6. Railways...	765,444	395,799	2,073,407
7. Road Traffic Licensing Authority	—	187,275	182,334
5—1. Office of the Minister of Industry, Commerce and External Communications ...	—	414,002	440,826
2. Civil Aviation	—	505,678	538,830
3. Granary	79,421	283,136	272,715
4. Harbour and Quays	—	1,349,414	1,382,782
5. Meteorological	41,543	377,089	403,358
6. Telecommunications	178,248	2,076,988	2,276,078
6—1. Office of the Minister of Education and Cultural Affairs	—	106,199	251,703
2. Archives	—	96,442	103,916
3. Education	1,441,412	19,185,747	19,658,525
4. Mauritius Institute	17,115	145,649	130,355
Carried forward	13,981,653	99,440,870	101,358,223

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Main Vote	Year ended 30th June 1939 Rs	1960 Rs	1961 Rs
Brought forward ...	13,981,653	99,440,870	101,358,223
7—1. Office of the Minister of Health and Reform Institutions ...	—	101,309	129,112
2. Health	1,477,202	14,313,375	15,599,462
3. Prisons and Industrial School	178,741	1,459,029	1,387,814
4. Social Welfare	—	491,967	513,318
8—1. Office of the Minister of Labour and Social Security	—	118,353	157,286
2. Labour	770,307	536,494	548,813
3 Public Assistance	—	18,189,390	16,618,739
9—1. Office of the Minister of Local Government and Co-operative Development	—	109,527	143,880
2. Co-operative Societies	—	217,283	228,883
3, Local Government	—	3,000,810	3,537,707
10—1. Office of the Minister of Housing, Lands and Town and Country Planning ...	—	149,021	569,373
2. Central Housing Authority ...	—	18,631	20,711
Office of the Minister of Works and Tourism	—	—	—
Ministers without Portfolio ...	—	—	—
TOTAL	16,407,903	138,146,059	140,813,321
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE			
20. Public Works Non-Recurrent ...	228,204	17,295,402	20,096,740
21. Other Works	—	3,401,707	6,435,086
22. Other Capital Expenditure ...	—	18,581,169	19,202,342
24. Reserve for New Projects	—	—	—
25. Redemption of Loans ...	—	1,137	605
TOTAL EXPENDITURE ...	228,204	39,279,415	45,734,774

PUBLIC DEBT

The Public Debt of the Colony on the 30th June, 1961, was Rs 143,749,389. Against this liability there was an accumulated Sinking Fund of Rs 19,055,390.

Local loan issues accounted for Rs 63,465,800 of the Public Debt as detailed below:—

	Rs
Agricultural Loan (No. 1) 1937	1,520,000
Agricultural Loan (No. 2) 1937	1,600,000
Mauritius Loan 1961	3,157,500
Mauritius Development and Welfare Loan 1971–81 ...	3,072,000
Development (General Purposes) Loan 1964–74	14,448,000
Mauritius Tap Loan	39,168,300
Cyclone and Drought Insurance Board—Interest Free Loan	500,000
TOTAL ...	63,465,800

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THE MAIN HEAD
THEIR

Customs :—	
Import Duties	
Export Duties	
Excise duty on Rum (Sp alcoholic bevera	
Tobacco Excise	
Licence Duties ...	
Income Tax, (Compani Corporate) ...	
Income Tax (Others)	
Tax on Sweepstakes an	

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s of Taxation and Yields

	Rs
... ...	44,136,855
... ...	71,665
rits, liquors and ges)	14,862,417
... ...	8,869,276
... ...	3,103,997
es and Bodies	22,352,517
... ...	19,018,596
l Lotteries ...	1,486,720
Total ...	113,902,043

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THE NATIONAL INCOME AND DEPRECIATION FIGURE FOR 1960 WAS CALCULATED BY THE CENTRAL STATISTICAL OFFICE TO BE APPROXIMATELY Rs 559,000,000

Gross National Product Industrial Origin	*Rs (millions)*	*%*
1. Agriculture, forestry, hunting and fishing ...	127	22·7
2. Mining and Quarrying..	1	0·2
3. Manufacture	88	15·7
4. Construction	33	5·9
5. Electricity, water and sanitary services ...	11	2·0
6. Transportation, Storage and Communication ...	71	12·7
7. Wholesale and Retail Trade	67	12.0
8. Banking, Insurance and Real Estate	13	2·3
9. Ownership of dwellings	42	7·5
10. Public Administration and Defence	27	4·9
11. Services	69	12·3
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (AT FACTOR COST,	549	98·2
Plus factor income from rest of the world ...	10	1·8
GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT (AT FACTOR COST)	559	100·0

National Income and Depreciation	*Rs (Millions)*	*%*
1. Compensation of employees	389	69 6
2. Income from farms, professions and other unincorporated enterprises received by households	74	13·2
3. Income from property received by households and private non-profit institutions ...	101	18·1
4. Saving of corporations	−32	−5·7
5. Direct taxes on corporations	22	3·9
6. General Government income from property and entrepreneurship ...	12	2·2
7. *Less* Interest on public debt	− 5	− 0·9
8. *Less* Interest on consumers' debt	− 2	− 0·4
NATIONAL INCOME AND DEPRECIATION	559	100·0

Gross National Expenditure Composition	*Rs (millions)*	*%*
1. Private consumption expenditure on goods and services	588	105·2
2. General Government consumption expenditure on goods and services	98	17·5
3. Gross domestic fixed capital formation of private enterprises ...	100	17·9
4. Gross domestic fixed capital formation of Government and public enterprises	34	6·1
5. Net exports of goods and services	-191	--34·2
6. Net factor income payments from rest of the world	10	1·8
7. GROSS NATIONAL EXPENDITURE AT MARKET PRICES	639	114·3
8. *Less* Indirect Taxes ...	−81	−14·5
9. *Plus* Subsidies	+ 1	+ 0:2
GROSS NATIONAL EXPENDITURE AT FACTOR COST	559	100·0

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COMPARATIVE FIGURES OF GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT 1953–59

Year	Gross National Product at factor cost Rs million	Increase or decrease on 1953 per cent	Resident Population 31st Dec. in each year (thousand)	Gross National product per head Rs
1953 ...	566	—	525	1,078
1954 ...	573	+ 1.2	539	1,063
1955 ...	591	+ 4.4	560	1,055
1956 ...	627	+10.8	579	1,083
1957 ...	646	+14.1	597	1,082
1958 ...	638	+12.7	614	1,039
1959 ...	683	+20.7	631	1,082
1960 ...	559	− 1·2	649	861

CUSTOMS TARIFF

The present tariff, which was brought into force by the Customs Tariff Ordinance (No. 26 of 1954), is based on the Standard International Trade Classification. The first schedule to this tariff comprises three main sections: import duties, exemptions, and export duties. Provision is made for the imposition of a preferential tariff on goods produced or manufactured in the United Kingdom and certain other territories, but admission of the goods to preference is dependent on the production of supporting evidence including prescribed certificates of origin and value. In the absence of this information, the general tariff rate is charged.

Export duties are levied on sugar and molasses, and in addition there are small duties imposed on goods exported from bond, goods in transit and goods reshipped after being landed from distressed vessels.

PACKAGE TAX

A package tax is levied under the Package Tax Ordinance (No. 32 of 1951) on all goods shown in the first schedule thereof, imported and landed at any port in the Colony. This tax is levied at variable low rates.

Exemptions are provided for in the second schedule to the Ordinance.

EXCISE DUTIES

Excise duties are leviable on Colonial spirits (rum), country liquor (Mauritius Fruit Wine), tobacco, matches, spirits used in the manufacture of denatured spirits (except for power purposes), vinegar, tinctures and drugs and perfumed spirits. The consumption of of rum during the year still showed a decrease over the figures of the previous year. On the other hand, the upward trend in the revenue collected in respect of country liquor has been maintained.

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Stamp Duties

Stamp duties are of three kinds:

Schedule " A " to the stamps Ordinance (Cap. 160, as subsequently amended), specifies the instruments or writings which are subject to a duty in proportion to the size of paper used. The tariff from 30 cents to Rs 1.80.

Schedule " B " specifies the instruments or writings which are subject to a fixed stamp duty. The amounts vary from 10 cents to Rs 18.

Schedule " C " specifies the instruments or writings which are subject to an *ad valorem* duty. These include Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes, Policies of Insurance, Debentures. The duties are mainly on a sliding scale.

The Stamp Duties collected in respect of impressed paper during the financial year 1960–61 amounted to Rs 948,595.

Income Tax

Income Tax is imposed by the provisions of the Income Tax Ordinance, 1950, as subsequently amended.

Various deductions, including capital allowances, are provided by the Ordinance and in the case of individuals, the chargeable income is arrived at after deducting personal reliefs and allowances.

The following schedule shows the rates of tax payable by individuals:

	Chargeable Income Rs		*Rate of Tax* %
For every rupee of the first	5,000	...	10
For every rupee of the next	5,000	...	15
do. do.	5,000	...	20
do. do.	5,000	...	30
do. do.	5,000	...	40
do. do.	10,000	...	50
do. do.	15,000	...	60
Remainder of the chargeable income		...	70

The rate of tax applicable to companies is 40 per cent of the amount of chargeable income.

Collection in the year 1960–61 amounted to Rs 41,371,113 as compared with Rs 40,155,075 in 1959–60.

Death Duty

Duty is payable on the value of the property accruing to each beneficiary at a rate dependent upon the degree of relationship to the deceased and the net value of such property, without aggregation of the whole estate.

The duty collected during 1961 amounted to Rs 871,791.16 compared with Rs 838,552.16 in 1960.

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Local Authorities Finances

The undermentioned table gives comparative figures of revenue and expenditure of the four urban local authorities for the last financial year:—

Local Authority	*Financial Year*	*Revenue Rs*	*Expenditure Rs*
Municipality of Port Louis (excluding Housing Scheme)	1961	5,197,135	4,878,030
Town Council of Beau Bassin—Rose Hill (excluding Housing Scheme) ...	1960–61	1,304,148	1,237,450
Town Council of Quatre Bornes (excluding Housing Scheme) ...	1960–61	649,582	624,537
Town Council of Curepipe (excluding Housing Scheme)	1960–61	1,619,528	1,344,079

District and Village Councils

The four District Councils established under Ordinance No. 76 of 1951 receive subsidies and grants from the Government which are partly allocated to the Village Councils, according to estimates approved by the District Councils. In addition to any taxation which may be imposed by the Village Councils, the District Councils have the right to levy taxes which do not apply to any particular village, such as advertisement and placard tax and entertainment tax. The total estimates of expenditure for the existing 111 Village Councils amounted to approximately Rs 619,163 and the total revenue including subsidies for scavenging and roads, amounted to Rs 710,688. Revenue from entertainment tax totalled Rs 108,500.

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Chapter 4: Currency and Banking

Currency

The local unit of currency is the Mauritius Rupee, which is sub-divided into 100 cents. The rupee is equivalent to 1s. 6d. sterling.

The notes in circulation are of denominations of Rs 25, Rs 10 and Rs 5. There is in addition a Rs 1,000 note which is legal tender only between the local banks and the Government.

The coins in circulation are the following:

Cupro-Nickel: One Rupee, Half-Rupee, Quarter-Rupee and Ten Cents.

Bronze: 5 Cents, 2 Cents and 1 Cent.

The value of currency in circulation on the 30th June for the last three financial years is given hereunder:—

	1959	*1960*	*1961*
	Rs	*Rs*	*Rs* c
Notes	61,235,000	64,605,000	68,245,000.00
Coins	4,243,000	4,038,000	4,498,378.30
TOTAL ...	65,478,000	68,643,000	72,743,378.30

Local Banks

Three trading banks operate in Mauritius: The Mauritius Commercial Bank Ltd., The Mercantile Bank Ltd. and Barclays Bank D.C.O.

Savings bank facilities are provided by the Post Office Savings Bank, The Mauritius Agricultural Bank, The Mauritius Commercial Bank Ltd., Barclays Bank D.C.O. and The Mercantile Bank Ltd.

Long-term loans for agricultural and housing purposes are provided by the Mauritius Agricultural Bank, while Barclays Overseas Development Corporation Limited undertakes medium-term finance on a commercial basis. There is, however, a lack of financial institutions specialising in long-term loans to individual borrowers for such purposes as housing, although loans against mortgages are obtainable from private sources. The Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank Ltd. provides finance on a seasonal basis for the cultivation requirements of the co-operative credit movement. The Government also provides assistance to local industry in the form of medium-term loans.

The Mauritius Commercial Bank was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1838 with a capital of Rs 2,000,000, which was increased to Rs 3,000,000 in 1948, to Rs 4,000,000 in 1958 and to

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Rs 5,000,000 in 1960. The Bank was registered as a limited liability company in August, 1955. The Bank's head office is in Port Louis with branches at Curepipe, Rose Hill, Mahebourg, Quatre Bornes, Centre de Flacq and Triolet. Its London Agents are Lloyds Bank Limited. It has correspondents all over the world and is able to offer a complete banking service. The reserves at the 31st December, 1961, stood at Rs 6,347,520.

The Mercantile Bank Limited, formerly the Mercantile Bank of India Limited, and now a Member of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Group, took over the business of the Bank of Mauritius Limited on the 31st May, 1916. The paid-up Capital of the Bank is £2,940,000. Reserve funds and unappropriated profits amount to £2,432,888. Through its Head Office in London and its branches throughout India, Pakistan, Ceylon, Burma, Thailand, Malaya and the Far East and correspondents throughout the rest of the World, the Mercantile Bank Limited is able to offer comprehensive banking facilities to the people of Mauritius.

Barclays Bank D.C.O. has its Head Office in London and over 1,270 branches in Africa, the Mediterranean area, the Carribean area, England, New York and Hamburg, with correspondents in all other important centres. The paid-up capital of the Bank was £17,000,000 as at 30th September, 1961, and the Reserve Fund was £13,800,000. The Bank, which is affiliated with Barclays Bank Limited, was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1836 as the Colonial Bank and re-incorporated by Act of Parliament in 1925; the name was then changed to Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), which amalgamated with the Anglo-Egyptian Bank Limited and the National Bank of South Africa Limited. The Port Louis, Mauritius, branch was established by the last-named in December, 1919, and was taken over by Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) following the amalgamation. The name of the Bank was changed to Barclays Bank D.C.O. in 1954. There are offices of the Bank at Sir William Newton Street, Port Louis, Dumat Street, Port Louis, Curepipe, Rose Hill, Vacoas, Centre de Flacq, Rivière des Anguilles and Rose Belle. The Bank acts as Agent for Barclays Overseas Development Corporation Limited, which was formed to assist in the economic development of territories in which the Bank operates and which had a paid-up capital of £6,000,000 on the 30th September, 1961.

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Post Office Savings Bank

The Post Office Savings Bank is operated by the Posts and Telegraphs Department. At the 30th June, 1961 the Bank had 79,785 active accounts and 2,076 dormant accounts with a balance due to depositors of Rs 31,408,233. Savings Bank business is transacted at 31 Post Offices. During 1961 transactions amounted in number and value to 53,831 deposits, totalling Rs 14,909,487 and 57,454 withdrawals, totalling Rs 16,432,181. Accounts are regarded as dormant if no transaction takes place for a period of twenty years.

The Mauritius Agricultural Bank

The Mauritius Agricultural Bank was established by Ordinance No. 1 of 1936 as a " body corporate having perpetual succession and a common seal . . . for the purpose of making long-term loans for agricultural needs ". It started its activities in 1937 with a capital of Rs 10,000,000 which was raised by loans, locally and overseas, by Government. Of this amount Rs 496,000 has been reimbursed by the Bank which had also contributed at the 31st December, 1961, Rs 1,708,640 to a sinking fund.

The first change in the constitution of the Bank occurred in 1940 when the minimum for loans (which had been Rs 5,000) was abolished and the Bank was authorised to draw Bills on the Treasury to finance loans for amounts under Rs 5,000.

The Mauritius Economic Commission (1948) recommended that the Bank's capital be increased and the scope of its activities extended to meet the needs of industrial as well as agricultural enterprises. Legislation was passed to this effect and to authorise the Bank to make long-term loans for housing (Ordinance No. 68 of 1950).

In 1949 the Bank was authorised to raise Rs 3,000,000 from the public by the sale of short-term bills. By Ordinance No. 68 of 1950 it was further empowered:

(a) to raise funds from the public by the issue of long-term debentures, by the issue of subscription debentures payable monthly and quarterly, and by accepting fixed deposits for 12–36 months and saving deposits;

(b) to arrange long-term loans and bank overdrafts.

One of the objects of authorising the Bank to raise funds from the public was to encourage saving in the Colony and it was hoped

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that the wide choice of investments would prove attractive. At the 31st December, 1961, there were:—

2,892 Savings Accounts for Rs 2,148,890.05

288 Fixed Deposit Accounts for Rs 1,430,701.52

167 Accounts for Subscription Debeutures for Rs 95,297.71.

At the 31st December, 1961, the Bank had paid out Rs 63,520,915 in loans as follows:—

	Rs
For agriculture	46,793,930
For housing	15,612,230
For industry	1,114,755
TOTAL ...	63,520,915

The Bank has been entrusted with the management of the loans granted under the Hurricane Loan Ordinance (1945), the Rehabilitation of Factories and Rolling Stock Ordinance (1948), and the Aloe Fibre Industry (Development) Ordinance (1952) and the 1960 Hurricane Loan. The total amount due by borrowers at the 31st December, 1961, was Rs 45,161,555 of which Rs 37,677,290 consisted of Agricultural Bank loans proper (including Rs 9,355,280 for housing loans). Rs 5,505,971 due by borrowers under the Hurricane Loan Ordinance, Rs 1,875,553 due by borrowers under the Rehabilitation of Factories and Rolling Stock Ordinance, and Rs 59,775 due by borrowers under the Aloe Fibre Industry (Development) Ordinance and Rs 2,432,829 due by borrowers under the 1960 Hurricane Loan. The demand for loans since 1950 has been far in excess of the resources of the Bank.

The following is a Summary of the Bank's Balance Sheet as at the 31st December, 1961.

Figures as at 31st December, 1961

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
	Rs		*Rs*
Mauritius Government ...	12,587,333	Loans	37,720,256
Debentures and Sub-Debentures	17,095,208	Cash	927,806
Deposits	6,895,035	Investments	1,676,584
Short-term Bills	577,886	Other Assets	2,085,744
Internal A/cs and other expenses	1,624,504	Sinking Fund Contributions	1,708,640
Sinking Fund	1,708,640		
Reserve and Profit and Loss A/c	3,630,334		
	44,119,030		44,119,030

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BANKING STATISTICS

NUMBER OF REPORTING BANKS: 3

Figures as at 31st December, 1961

All figures are in rupees (000 omitted)

LIABILITIES	Rs
1. Notes in circulation ...	—
2. Deposits :—	
(1) Demand	143,545
(2) Time	3,550
(3) Savings	12,472
3. Balances due to :—	
(a) Other banks in the Colony	
(i) in respect of current transactions ...	3,716
(ii) in respect of loans and advances ...	—
(b) Banks abroad	
(i) in respect of current transactions ...	—
1. U.K.	20,151
2. U.S.A. ...	46
3. Canada ...	16
4. Elsewhere ...	1,794
(ii) in respect of loans and advances ...	—
4. Other Liabilities	55,925
TOTAL LIABILITIES ...	241,215

ASSETS	Rs
1. Cash	5,968
2. Balances due by other banks in the Colony :—	
(i) in respect of current transactions	2,971
(ii) in respect of loans and advances	—
3. Balances due from banks abroad :—	
(i) in respect of current transactions	—
1. U.K.	54,791
2. U.S.A.	—
3. Canada	31
4. Elsewhere ...	2,327
(ii) in respect of bills discounted	—
A. Current B. Overdue	
1. U.K.	—
2. U.S.A.	—
3. Canada	—
4. Elsewhere ...	—
(iii) in respect of loans and advances	—
4. Loans and advances (to customers other than banks) :—	
(1) Primary production (including processing of primary products) ...	53,265
(2) Other industries (including Commerce, Transport and Distribution)	45,763
(3) Other advances ...	21,765
5. Investments:—	
(a) Local	5,033
(b) Other	2,000
6. Other Assets :—	
(i) Bills discounted ...	3,020
(ii) Bills receivable ...	8,801
(iii) Other	35,480
TOTAL ASSETS ...	241,215

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BANKS EXCHANGE RATES

The buying and selling rates for telegraphic transfers were at the end of 1961, roughly as under:—

	Buying	*Selling*
BRITISH STERLING		
Under £ 5,000	Rs 13.25 per £1	Rs 13.43 per £1
£5,000 and over	Rs 13.26⅜ ,,	Rs 13.40 ,,
CANADIAN DOLLARS	Rs 4.60 per $1	Rs 4.70 per $1
U.S.A. DOLLARS	Rs 4.70 per $1	Rs 4.82 per $1
SOUTH AFRICAN RANDS		
Under 10,000	Rs 6.60 per £1	Rs 6.73 per Rand
10,000 and over	Rs 6.60 ,,	Rs 6.71 ,,
AUSTRALIAN POUNDS	Rs 10.50 per £1	Rs 10.80 per £1
FRENCH FRANCS		
France	Rs 0.94 per NF 1	Rs 0.99 per NF 1
C.F.A.	Rs 1.84 per 100 francs	Rs 1.98 per 100 francs
OTHER CURRENCIES		
India and Pakistan	At par	1 % premium
East Africa	Rs 65 per 100 shs	Rs 67 per 100 shs.

The control of foreign exchange was maintained in 1961 under the Mauritius Exchange Control Ordinance, 1951, which was enacted on the lines of the United Kingdom Exchange Control Act, 1947, and thus ensures similarity of practice in exchange control matters in the Scheduled Territories.

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Chapter 5 : Commerce

The commerce of the Colony depends almost entirely on the sugar crop which in 1961 yielded 553,000* metric tons as compared with 235,781 metric tons in 1960 and 580,372 metric tons in 1959. The big decrease in sugar production in 1960 was due to the damages caused to the sugar plantations by the violent cyclones which hit the island during that year. High degree alcohol, a by-product of sugar is produced mainly for local consumption and the quantity exported in 1961 was negligible. The exportation of molasses, another by-product of sugar was 64,633 metric tons, against 45,180 metric tons in 1960 and 59,985 metric tons in 1959. Exports of tea reached 792 metric tons as compared with 211 metric tons in 1960. A small part of the Colony's demand for foodstuffs is met by local production, namely meat, sugar, salt, tea, fruits and vegetables, fish (fresh and dried) and coconut oil. Local industries produce cigarettes, matches, aloe-fibre bags for sugar, rum and country liquor. The bulk of the needs of the Colony are met by importation from other countries.

Imports of rice, the staple food of the Colony, reached 67,215 metric tons as compared with 60,568 metric tons in 1960 and 57,130 metric tons in 1959. Wheaten flour was imported mainly from Australia, beef on the hoof from Madagascar and considerable quantities of foodstuff from the United Kingdom and the Republic of South Africa.

The United Kingdom continues to be the principal source of supply for manufactured goods such as textiles, machinery, motor vehicles, hardware and electrical goods. Large quantities of cotton piece goods are received from India and large supplies of general merchandise from Hong Kong. Manufactured fertilizers are imported mainly from the United Kingdom, Western Germany and France.

* Provisional

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DIRECTION OF EXPORT TRADE

	1959	1960	1961
Preferential Tariff Countries	Rs	Rs	Rs
United Kingdom	229,645,262	159,545,799	235,874,497
Australia	100,145	75,740	397,859
Burma *	—	—	1,000,000
Canada	37,525,121	9,988,397	40,667,309
Hong Kong	3,027,113	50,679	91,347
India	33,480	180,544	14,243
Kenya	594,962	255,181	246,001
Malaya	376,046	381,700	862
New Zealand	88,961	36,932	245,023
Republic of South Africa ...	319,159	522,408	517,058
Seychelles	346,917	432,811	368,241
Singapore	1,055,765	319,842	29,010
Southern Rhodesia	17,860	25,405	3,144,691
Other Preferential Tariff Countries	2,318,934	980,150	117,726
TOTAL ...	275,449,725	172,795,588	282,713,867
General Tariff Countries			
France	109,151	98,718	152,917
German Federal Republic ...	79,242	336,962	192,529
Holland	1,571,003	963,557	106,466
Japan	755,927	1,516,230	2,320,512
Lebanon	2,884,321	—	4,690
Madagascar	520,271	547,743	797,323
Portuguese East Africa	8,900	14,950	11,719
Reunion	707,908	1,427,325	1,495,061
United States of America ...	106,208	8,025	3,536,767
Other General Tariff Countries ..	17,535	68,557	158,967
TOTAL ...	6,760,466	4,982,067	8,776,951
Sugar Quota Certificates ...	7,424,404	7,208,287	6,995,000
GRAND TOTAL OF EXPORTS ...	289,634,595	184,985,942	298,485,818

DIRECTION OF IMPORT TRADE

	1959	1960	1961
Preferential Tariff Countries	Rs	Rs	Rs
United Kingdom	105,579,527	115,503,856	104,293,118
Aden	26,642	84,236	205,161
Australia	19,546,376	23,032,535	22,438,451
Bahrein	183,190	735,746	340,529
British West Indies	263,727	166,450	27,408
Burma	28,562,541	26,803,635	28,947,559
Canada	450,577	383,995	512,838
Ceylon	110,329	191,981	253,174
Carried over	154,722,909	166,902,434	157,018,238

*Export figures to Burma for 1959–1960 were nil.

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DIRECTION OF IMPORT TRADE—*continued*

	1959	*1960*	*1961*
	Rs	*Rs*	*Rs*
Brought forward ...	154,722,909	166,902,434	157,018,238
Cyprus	65,105	33,952	50,570
Eire	879,136	1,075,912	1,162,244
Hong Kong	7,143,800	9,351,287	9,734,452
India	12,709,112	13,448,230	13,750,925
Kenya	3,429,712	6,795,780	7,687,858
Malaya	2,776,818	2,814,040	2,433,288
New Zealand	603,226	473,574	964,159
Pakistan	475,014	1,081,865	1,080,862
Republic of South Africa ...	19,963,561	21,652,598	27,116,433
Singapore	1,442,832	2,527,957	3,826,796
Southern Rhodesia	312,018	594,399	567,092
Seychelles	573,613	763,803	825,663
Other Preferential Tariff Countries	2,862,059	631,898	572,139
TOTAL	207,959,915	228,147,729	226,790,719
General Tariff Countries			
Belgium	3,974,661	7,836,669	5,053,567
Czechoslovakia	466,044	670,275	750,044
Denmark	550,443	631,881	642,136
Ethiopia	1,489,423	529,447	561,224
France	9,387,420	12,975,178	12,887,972
German Federal Republic ...	11,903,304	12,957,475	15,025,259
Germany (Eastern)	452,370	387,113	245,131
Holland	3,998,609	6,335,021	5,703,215
Hungary	83,944	77,131	78,779
Iran	10,603,768	9,723,571	8,220,629
Italy (including Sicily)	1,113,521	1,436,395	1,540,570
Japan	9,193,744	13,381,892	9,694,273
Luxembourg	539,269	731,274	807,567
Madagascar	2,065,143	2,749,393	3,193,102
Morocco	241,413	911,471	346,283
Netherlands West Indies ...	192,925	379,533	327,791
Norway	449,905	364,338	1,241,439
Poland	176,531	122,592	29,595
Portugal	870 543	699,269	237,499
Portuguese East Africa	474,787	2,419,816	3,525,944
Saudi Arabia	30	5,117	145
Siam	6,243,975	8,799,917	10,026,880
Spain	135,099	210,112	320,128
Sudan	701,139	438,412	646,811
Sweden	1,259,993	2,287,994	2,078,370
Switzerland	1,490,388	1,491,012	1,378,375
United States of America ...	8,486,444	9,501,321	7,552,545
Russia	12,359	13,948	23,332
Yougoslavia	69	—	1,641
Other General Tariff Countries ...	2,007,448	5,157,920	4,455,221
TOTAL ...	78,564,711	103,225,487	96,595,467
BAGGAGE ...	327,099	493,831	574,321
GRAND TOTAL OF IMPORTS ...	286,851,725	331,867,047	323,960,507

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TRADE FIGURES

I—IMPORTS

Trade figures

Principal Imports	1959 Total=Rs 286,851,725 Quantity	1959 C.I.F. Value Rs	1960 Total=Rs 331,867,047 Quantity	1960 C.I.F. Value Rs	1961 Total=Rs 323,960,507 Quantity	1961 C.I.F. Value Rs	Main Countries of Supply
Rice	57,130 M. Tons	32,350,791	60.568 M. Tons	33,042,052	67,215 M. Tons	36,814,172	Burma, Siam and Pakistan.
Wheaten flour	17,737 ,,	7,355,320	23,917 ,,	10,026,954	22,654 ,,	9,362,384	Australia, German Federal Republic, Kenya and France.
Other grain and grain products ...	11,968 ,,	6,807,355	10,866 ,,	6,723,739	12.046 ,,	6,786,833	Australia, Republic of South Africa. Madagascar. Kenya, Burma, India, Erythrea, Ethiopia and Holland
Cattle and meat	—	5,112,808	—	6,275,239	—	6,763,458	Madagascar, Australia, Kenya, Republic of S. Africa,
Edible oils and fats	5,794 ,,	8,910,548	8,277 ,,	12,182,668	7.693 ,,	12,310,772	United Kingdom, Holland, France, Belgium, Israel, Uganda, Portuguese E. A. Republic of South Africa.
Beverages	—	4,807,429	—	6,166,572	—	6,935,704	United Kingdom, France, Republic of S. Africa, Singapore. Holland, Eire.
Coal	13,815 ,,	881,053	2,423 ,,	192,274	5,848 ,,	380,407	Republic of South Africa.
Petroleum products	—	12,518,636	—	12,917,559	—	10,947,445	Iran, United Kingdom, Republic of South Africa, U.S. America, Bahrein.
Wood and wood manufactures ...	—	5,938,086	—	5,706,225	—	5,855,814	Australia, Malaya, Singapore, Siam, Burma and Japan.
Gunny bags	930,788 Units	1,025,714	817,846 Units	1,291,115	165,930 Units	225,905	India and Pakistan.
Cotton piece goods	9,557,885 Sq. ms.,	10,993,959	9,115,646 sq. ms.	12,068,918	8,981,707 sq. ms.	12,218,676	United Kingdom, Hong Kong, India, and Japan.
Silk piece goods	3,368,035 ,,	4,195,744	2,173,094 ,,	3,479,296	2,557,131 ,,	4,412,262	United Kingdom, India and Japan.
Woollen piece goods	162,100 ,,	1,836,268	206,586 ,,	2,334,752	168,251 ,,	1,988,599	United Kingdom.
Vehicles :—							
(a) (i) Motor cars	784 Units	5,454,783	1,186 Units	7,683,676	1,004 Units	6,250,869	United Kingdom, France, German Federal Republic.
(ii) Other	—	8,619,337	—	8,901,815	—	8,489,446	United Kingdom and German Federal Republic.
(b) Railway and tramway locomotives and accessories ...	—	456,497	—	247,420	—	274,589	United Kingdom and U.S. America.
(c) Ships, aircraft and accessories	—	244,395	—	407,278	—	1,037,715	United Kingdom, U.S, America Norway.
Cement	62,056 M. Tons	7,058,053	94,621 M. Tons	9,887,221	91,815 M. Tons	9,080,799	United Kingdom, Kenya, Japan, Belgium, Republic of South Africa.
Machinery other than electric ...	3,420 ,,	21,140,882	3,799 ,,	21,598,429	— ,,	20,226,751	United Kingdom, United States of America, France and Rep. of s. Africa.
Electrical goods	—	20,216,127	—	19,608,477	—	17,460,843	United Kingdom, U.S. America. France, Holland, German Federal Republic,
Iron and steel goods	14,786 ,,	15,292,698	32,282 ,,	33,389,342	21,465 ,,	23,233,073	United Kingdom, Belgium, German Federal Republic, France, Japan, Luxembourg. Republic of South Africa, Hong Kong and Australia.
Manures and Fertilizers	58,602 ,,	15,175,270	61,057 ,,	14,176,216	61,245 ,,	14,019,480	United Kingdom. Belgium, German Federal Republic. France, Republic of South Africa, Seychelles and Madagascar.
Paper and paper manufactures ...	2,086 ,,	4,187,404	2,893 ,,	4,493,479	3,023 ,,	5,192,150	United Kingdom, Norway, Sweeden, Republic of South Africa, German Federal Republic and Singapore.

II.—Exports

	1959	*1960*	*1961*
	Rs	Rs	Rs
(a) Domestic Exports	278,177,914	172,296,575	281,076,085
(b) Sugar Quota Certificates ...	7,424,404	7,208,287	6,995,000
(c) Re-Exports	4,032,277	5,481,080	10,414,733
TOTAL ...	289,634,595	184,985,942	298,485,818

Principal Exports	*1959*		*1960*		*1961*		*Main Countries of Destination*
	Quantity	*F.O.B. Value*	*Quantity*	*F.O.B. Value*	*Quantity*	*F.O.B. Value*	
		Rs		Rs		Rs	
Sugar ...	512,031 M.Tons	269,506,560*	299,371 M.Tons	166,778,758*	505,687 M.Tons	269,478,027*	United Kingdom, Canada, Seychelles, Hong Kong, Malaya, Nyasaland, Sin-gapore, and Lebanon.
Molasses ...	59,985 ,,	4,835,489	45,180 ,,	3,422,233	64,633 ,,	4,987,507	United Kingdom, U.S. America, New Zealand and Holland.
Rum ...	†300 Hectols	26,307	240 Hectols	21,661	148 Hectols	14,108	Seychelles. Hong Kong,
Aloe Fibre ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tea ...	464 M.Tons	2,691,883	211 M.Tons	1,344,312	792 M.Tons	4,904,063	United Kingdom, Kenya, Holland, U. S. America and Rep. of S. Africa.

*Excluding Value of Sugar Quota Certificates.
†Revised figures.

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Chapter 6 : Production

Land Utilization and Water Conservation

Mauritius covers an area of 460,800 acres of which about 220,000 acres are under intensive cultivation. Beyond the crops from this land the Island produces little else with which to meet the requirements of a population numbering about 660,000 at a density of about 910 per square mile. The cultivated area consists mainly of sugarcane (200,000 acres); it does not include either economic forestry, or other tree plantations (19,000 acres). Forests and Forest plantations, woodlands, mountain, river and natural reserves, and scrub total about 200,000 acres. Built up areas, roads, water bodies and open spaces cover 22,000 acres.

The central and elevated part of the Island, above the 100" isohyet, is mostly covered with forest and scrub land to protect and regulate the water resources. In this area, cultivation, except for tea, is not very conspicuous. No laws specially protecting this natural watershed exist except those giving protection to Mountain and River Reserves.

The main upland water catchment area is mostly Crown property and utilized for the production of forest produce, fuel and fodder, with a limited acreage under tea and other crops. Water resources are mainly dependent on the incidence of nearby cyclonic disturbances bringing rain, most of which falls in the hot season or in the heavy downpours accompanying cyclonic disturbances. Several reservoirs have been constructed in order to hold this water for utilization, both for domestic and irrigation purposes and for the production of electrical energy; further progress in this direction continues.

Land Ownership

In the early days of French colonization, land was conceded to settlers almost all over the Island. Later, land ownership was governed by the French Civil Code or '*Code Napoleon*'. which is still in force. This provides for equal division of property among the heirs often resulting ultimately, in the case of land, in excessive fragmentation. The demand for land is accentuated by the rapid growth of population, leading to the inflation of land values. Grouping of estates into companies has checked fragmentation for the bulk of the land, although for a time speculation led to a system of parcelling known as '*morcellement*' when large tracts of land were purchased and sold again in numerous small lots.

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Land Tenure

The Island was uninhabited when first colonized. Its original permanent settlers were the French who, through the grant of concessions, became the original freehold owners of all the land except Crown Lands. At present, apart from Crown Lands, including Crown forests and the " Pas Géométriques " which total 83,000 acres, the land is owned in large or small lots by all sections of the community. Roughly 70 percent is owned by companies and private estates, the remainder being the property of the Indo-Mauritian section of the population. In addition to freehold tenure, land is also held lease-hold and on share-cropping agreements.

Leasehold tenure is practised to a limited extent on privately-owned lands and on Crown Lands. In the case of Crown Lands, leasing is generally by auction to the highest bidder, but it may also be by contract, leases varying from 3 to 30 years with security of tenure to satisfactory tenants. Various types of share-cropping in the form of " métayage " exist.

Renting System

Rentals are either cash, crop-sharing or " Taungya ". Cash rentals are payable monthly, quarterly or annually; in crop-sharing the proportion of the crop handed over as rental varies according to circumstances and the nature of the crop; under the " Taungya " system, which is adopted in tree plantations, especially in Crown forest areas, the tenant is permitted to grow vegetables or annual crops between the young trees provided he keeps the trees clear of weeds and fills up the gaps. This is a temporary system, as cultivation is discontinued as soon as the trees are developed.

Land and Water Development Programmes

These include provision for:

(a) increased reservoir construction both for domestic and irrigation purposes, the latter leading to increased cultivation of land;

(b) increased generation of electrical power.

Land Settlement

There exist six settlements covering a total area of approximately 1,300 acres. Some 600 tenants have been settled. The routine maintenance works on the settlements were performed satisfactorily and the tenants did their best to keep their holdings in good condition. On some settlements a small percentage of the land is in a derelict state due to the difficult nature of the land. The clearing of the steep portion of Crown Land *' Petit Sable '* has been completed and eight holdings have been leased to farmers of the locality.

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AGRICULTURE

Department of Agriculture

At the 31st December, 1961, the permanent and pensionable staff of the Department numbered 265 as follows:—

Division	*In post*	*Vacancies*
Administrative Division	40	2
Agricultural Division	53	5
Tea Division	6	—
Plant Pathology Division	6	—
Entomological Division	4	—
Agricultural Chemistry Division...	6	—
Engineering Division	5	—
Central Board Division	9	1
Agricultural College Division	12	1
Rodrigues Division (attached to Agricultural Division)	18	1
Fisheries Division	57	6
Veterinary Division	32	1
TOTAL	248	17

The general policy of the Department of Agriculture is to promote the most efficient use of available lands suitable for cultivation and to foster the most efficient production of livestock and livestock products. To this end, the primary objective is the training of technical staff for the Department of Agriculture, the Mauritius Sugar Industry Research Institute, the Sugar Industry and the other agricultural interests of the Island. Training is done in the first instance at the College of Agriculture which provides a three year course. For the purposes of the Department of Agriculture a programme of study leave enables local officers to be trained overseas to meet requirements for specialist and senior professional staff.

The second objective is the provision of an Agricultural Extension Service which makes readily available to the farmer assistance and advice and translates into general agricultural practice the information obtained from the experimental stations.

Associated with both the foregoing objectives is the development of experimental stations in each of the major climatic zones of the Colony for the purpose of investigation under competent supervision of crops, stocks and methods suited to the particular areas.

The sugar industry is the main source of wealth and employment in the Colony and Government policy is to encourage development of that industry to the limits imposed by overseas markets. The industry has its own Research Institute which covers research in both field and factory aspects of sugarcane.

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The Department of Agriculture, in collaboration with the Sugar Research Institute, undertakes extension work in regard to small planters, having as one of its principal aims the raising of small planters' yields to a figure more comparable with that of the estates. The Department also maintains a plant inspection service to prevent introduction of new pests and diseases, controls the Cane Quarantine Greenhouse and administers the Central Cane Arbitration Board.

The development of secondary industries has long been an important item of the Department's policy and everything is done to encourage the development of the tea, tobacco and fibre industries, and small planters are encouraged to produce cash vegetable and food crops. Encouragement of local production of meat and milk within the limits imposed by the restricted availability of land for fodder and pasture is an item of policy which is implemented in several ways, the chief of which are the improvement of the milk breed of cattle characteristic of Mauritius and the maintenance of an island-wide artificial insemination service.

Fisheries policy comprises conservation of the lagoon fisheries, development of off shore fishing and investigation of pond culture of fresh water fish.

The Board of Agriculture, Fisheries and Natural Resources studies all matters of policy and makes recommendations to the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Sugar

Mauritius is naturally best adapted for the production of sugar which is the staple of the Island. The whole of the production, with the exception of some 25,000 tons consumed locally, is exported, mainly to the United Kingdom; Canada is also an important buyer of Mauritius Sugar.

Production in the preceding years was as follows:—

	Metric tons
1957	562,003
1958	525,842
1959	580,372
1960	235,607 (Cyclone year)

Annual average (exclusive of 1960) 556,072 M. T.

In 1961 the production of sugar amounted to 552,733 metric tons obtained from an harvested area of about 194,700 acres. The average yield of cane per acre over the whole island was about 25.5 metric tons. Sugar extraction was 11.19 per cent compared with 9,84 per cent in 1960. The production of sugar per acre was approximately 2.85 metric tons, which is substantially higher than

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1,23 metric tons obtained in 1960, though it is still lower than the mean of the four years 1956 to 1959 which is 3.09 metric tons. The crop was not affected by any cyclonic winds this year, but suffered from drought. The rains came late, and the time lost was never caught up completely. These abnormal climatic conditions had an adverse effect which showed particularly on the sucrose content of cane.

Although an important proportion of cane lands is under peasant ownership, mostly Indo-Mauritian, the bulk of the sugar is produced on the plantation scale. The larger plantations with factories produced about 60 per cent of the total crop. The smaller peasant owners, some 15,000 of whom cultivate altogether about 19 per cent of the land under cane, often work their land with the assistance of their families, employing extraneous labour at peak time such as at planting and harvesting. Many of these small planters have grouped themselves into co-operative societies for the purpose of consigning their canes to factories.

The cane was milled in 1961 in 22 factories all of which are company owned.

The whole of the sugar produced is marketed by the Mauritius Sugar Syndicate. Since the war the price of Commonwealth sugar has been fixed year by year under the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement. The negotiated price quota exportable under the terms of the Agreement has been slightly reduced for 1961 and amounted to 351,750 long tons. In addition to this quota, Mauritius has been authorised to export during 1961 the unshipped portion of its 1960 negotiated price quota amounting to 50,685 long tons.

The Commonwealth Agreement has been further extended and will now run up to the end of 1969.

Cane is purchased by factories on the basis of two thirds of the sugar and by-products going to the planters under contracts which are subject to the control of the Central Board. The Board functions as a part of the organisation of the Department of Agriculture.

Exports of molasses amounted to 64,633 metric tons, whilst the production of alcohol in 1961 amounted to 1,350,000 litres (100° G.L.) against 1,900,000 in 1960. The greater part of the production was used locally as rum, denatured spirits and power alcohol. 14,781 litres of high strength spirits were exported.

Industrial Crops

Three other crops are grown industrially, but on a small scale compared with sugarcane. These are tea, tobacco, and aloe fibre.

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Tea

The favourable weather conditions which prevailed particularly during the first half of the year resulted in a considerable increase in the production of tea over the last normal year 1959, total production being 2,809,034 pounds of black tea.

Exports of black tea at 1,576,534 pounds also showed a considerable increase over the previous highest figure of 1,023,,471 pounds in 1959. The bulk of the exported tea was consigned to the United Kingdom and sold on the London Auctions. The average selling price of tea from all sources on the London market showed a fall of a little more than 2d. per pound on the previous year; but the average selling price of the 13,225 chests of Mauritian tea offered for sale was at 4s.0.65d. per pound—nearly 2d. per pound above that for the previous year.

Again this year very little new clearing under the Government-sponsored scheme for the expansion of the tea industry was undertaken by the private individuals participating in the scheme, most of their effort being concentrated on the rehabilitation of the damage caused by the cyclones of 1960. By the end of the year the greater part of the areas planted before the cyclones of 1960 under this scheme has been replanted; and it is hoped that the participants will now be able to undertake further clearing.

Work was started towards the end of the year on the Government's new five year tea development programme under which it is hoped to plant a further 2,500 acres of tea by mid 1965. The planting under this scheme will be done entirely by the Department of Agriculture, the planted land being leased to tenants when the tea comes into bearing.

A new tea factory, trading under the mark " Stili ", was opened during the course of the year. This factory, which is situated in the South-West of the Island, is of small capacity and designed specifically for " Leg Cut " manufacture. The total number of tea factories in the Colony is now seven.

Tobacco

Tobacco was grown on 802 acres in 1961, a decrease of 129 acres as compared with 1960. Of this area, 556 acres were under Virginian varieties and the remainder under Amarello. The total production amounted to 504 metric tons.

Imports of cigarettes and leaf tobacco have remained at about the same level as in 1960. During the year, there has been a drop in consumption of locally manufactured cigarettes. As a result the estimated requirements of the manufacturers for 1962 in respect of locally grown tobacco have decreased.

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Domestic Virginian leaf blended with imported leaf is used in the manufacture of the " Embassy ", " Soirée ", " Domino " and " Cabaret " brands of local cigarettes which sell in competition with local cigarettes " Matinée " and " Mills " manufactured entirely from imported Virginian leaf and imported Virginian cigarettes.

Amarello and some of the lower grades of domestic Virginian are utilised for the cheaper brands, selling below the price range of imported cigarettes.

Tobacco is almost entirely grown in small plots, for the most part by peasant cultivators. In 1961, producers received on the average Rs 5:76 per kilo of Virginian flue-cured, Rs 4:92 per kilo of Amarello flue-cured; air-cured sold at Rs 2.42 per kilo.

Mauritius can produce flue-cured Virginian tobacco of good colour and aroma, but up to now attempts to obtain a footing on the export market have failed owing to the small acreage under cultivation and of the necessity to supply the " run of the crop ".

The area annually grown is determined by the Tobacco Board according to the estimated requirements. On the Board sit representatives of the various interests concerned. Closely connected with it is the Tobacco Warehouse which receives, grades, processes. bales, stores and sells all the tobacco produced in the Colony.

Fibre

Fibre is produced in Mauritius mainly from the *Furcraea Gigantea* plant, also known as " Mauritius Hemp " or " Aloe ". It is a hard leaf fibre resembling sisal which is also grown to some extent. Furcraea thrives mostly in wild growing plantations, mainly along the drier coastal belt. The yield of a wild plantation is roughly reckoned at half a ton of fibre per acre per year while that of a regular plantation is estimated at one ton.

The fibre is extracted from the leaves by scraping in decorticators. These decorticators are of the " Raspador " type. The green fibre obtained is washed and retted for 2 to 4 days after which it is washed, sun dried, brushed and baled.

During the last five years, fibre production averaged 1,377 tons a year. The whole quantity was purchased by the Government Sack Factory for processing into sacks for the bagging of Sugar. According to information received, the aloe-jute sacks purchased in 1960 by Burma for bagging rice exported to Mauritius have given entire satisfaction. In 1961 the Sugar Millers have ordered this type of sacks for the bagging of white sugar consumed locally.

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Twelve fibre factories were in operation in 1961. Production amounted to 1,111 tons. This reduction was due mainly to the effect of the 1960 cyclones on aloe-fibre plants. Thus the fibre produced was insufficient for the requirements of the Government Sack Factory which had to import jute cuttings to the extent of 365 tons to supplement the supplies of aloe-fibre.

The following goods were produced by the Government Sack Factory in 1961:

310,227 Aloe sacks, type 6×8, of 80 kgs. capacity
602,656 Aloe-jute sacks, type 5×7, of 80 kgs. capacity
429,058 Aloe-jute sacks type 5×8, of 80 kgs. capacity
60,868 aloe jute sacks type 6×8 of 80 kgs. capacity
19,925 sacks of other types
8,872 yards of filter press cloth
16,849 kilos of yarn
5,840 yards of other products
60,000 sacks were exported to Reunion Island.

All the fibre produced in the Island is handled by the Mauritius Hemp Poducers Syndicate which grades, bales, stores and sells the fibre. The fibre is graded as " Very Good ", " Good ", " Fair ", " Tow ", " Cuttings ".

Food Crops

Production of foodcrops and vegetables in Mauritius amounted to some 22000 tons, from an area of approximately 8,500 acres of the various crops grown.

The Extension Service of the Department of Agriculture advises farmers on improved agricultural techniques for sugarcane and various other crops. Evening meetings and film shows are organised and the major agricultural problems of the farmers are discussed. Regular visits are paid to farmers in the field where advice is given. Demonstrations are carried out on the application of insecticides and fungicides for the control of insect pests and diseases, the correct use of fertilizers is likewise demonstrated in the field. Successful control of the major pests and diseases attacking foodscrops and vegetables is generally achieved. A special scheme for the control of blight disease in potato has been started operating in 1961. Moreover a campaign for the conservation of fodder in pit silos has been initiated and several demonstration pits have been filled during the year.

Livestock

Since the last cattle census held in 1956 the population of milk cattle is estimated to have risen to some 40,000 head due mainly to control over the slaughter of useful cows and to extension work done by the Animal Health and Husbandry Services of the Department.

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The population of herd cattle has declined steadily through lack of demand for draught animals and manure. A start was however made during the year to consolidate the population of Zebu cattle for beef production at selected places on the coast, by upgrading these animals with Boran Bulls recently added to the Department's breeding stock.

The Department's policy to help upgrade the peasant owned milch cows of creole type was vigorously pursued. Over 10,700 cows were artificially inseminated by using selected Creole Bulls, conception rate being 66 per cent. The Extension Service took an active part in projecting a campaign at home level to produce more food and held demonstrations and lectures illustrated by films on practical stock farming.

The Poultry Breeding Project made notable progress during the year. The progeny testing of breeding stock was successfully completed and the sale of Day-old-chicks was initiated by the sale of hatching eggs and chicks.

" 606 " and " 404 " Hybrids from Thornbers in Yorkshire and their parent stock were put under trial to assess their utility under local conditions. Pheasants and a number of Exhibition breeds were acquired for purposes of teaching and demonstration. An open Range Unit was established for the production of pullets the point of lay. The Unit is equipped with locally made night arks and range shelters, rain proof feeders and automatic water drinkers. The area is sufficient to accommodate 2,000 growers to the point of lay.

The plan to establish a demonstration modern Broiler Unit was finalised for immediate construction. Modern equipment was ordered from the United Kingdom to provide up-to-date facilities for broiler production, killing, plucking, eviscerating and bagging.

The Animal Health Laboratory accepted pathological specimens for examination. Besides the diagnostic service the Laboratory produced vaccines against Newcastle disease, Fowl Pox, Swine Fever, Canine Distemper and Bovine Warts.

Random samples of blood from draught bullocks in different parts of the island were collected for examination for Trypanosomiasis with negative results. Blood samples from cattle at the Government Breeding Stations were subjected to agglutination test for Brucellosis with negataive results.

Construction of the Animal Health Laboratory was started in December to provide modern facilities for the work already being done in diagnosis and treatment of animal diseases and for investigational work in all branches of animal health and production.

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FISHERIES

The control of the Mauritius fisheries is exercised by the Fisheries Division of the Department of Agriculture. This consists of a Fisheries Officer and a staff of 59 inspectors and guards who are responsible for the enforcement of the laws regulating fisheries, the collection and establishment of statistics and the study and implementation of all new measures which might be recommended for the better protection of the stock, for the improvement of the efficiency of the industry and the welfare of the fishing community.

The Department has given considerable attention to an aspect of production new to Mauritius, namely, the farming of freshwater fish for the production of food rich in protein which is deficient in the diet of most classes of the population.

Fishing is practised in the lagoon surrounding most of the Island, which covers an area of about 95 square miles and on the off shore shelf, to the 100 fathoms line, which is extensive in the northern part forming a bank of about 200 square miles with an average depth of 35 fathoms. About 2,600 fishermen with some 1,800 light fishing boats and a number of deep-sea pinnaces, together produce an annual catch of some 2,000 tons.

Usually middlemen supply crafts and gear to the fishermen who in return bring their catch at an agreed price. The middlemen is expected to make advances during periods of forced idleness. Loans are still being granted from Government Funds either for the construction of new boats or to repair those damaged during cyclones. This scheme is still successful and Rs 150,400 have been granted to 310 persons during the year. The local catch is entirely consumed locally. The price varies with the abundance of fish; it is generally lower during the summer months when more fish is caught.

Oyster Culture

Following expert advice obtained on modern methods of oyster culture, encouraging experiments have been made and it is expected to increase the annual yield which hitherto has been derived from natural oyster beds. Some owners of fish ponds, where conditions are suitable, are now co-operating to extend these methods past the experimental stage. Collectors and young oysters have been distributed and the growth of young oysters has been very encouraging.

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FORESTRY

(a) Areas of different types of forest. Forest areas in Mauritius are classified as follows—

I. *Crown Forest Estate*

	Acreage	*Total area in acres*
A. *Areas potentially productive*		
(a) Plantations of exotics (part temporarily underplanted due to cyclone damage	11,360	
(b) Area suitable and available for economic forestry;—		
(i) Mountain Reserves areas	3,140	
(ii) National Reserves	3,285	
(iii) Catchment areas	5,000	
(iv) Other areas	8,415	
		31,200
B. *Areas potentially unproductive*		
(i) Mountain Reserves areas	14,845	
(ii) National Reserves	1,220	
(iii) Catchment areas	5,035	
		21,100
C. *Areas leased or otherwise occupied and not available for forestry*		15,400
TOTAL =		67,700

II. *Leased Crown Lands in Coastal Belt of 250 (French) feet—Pas Géométriques*

(i) Tree Plantations (mainly Casuarina equisetifolia)...	4,190	
(ii) Rocky grazing lands with trees	1,100	
		5,290

III. *Privately-owned forest lands*

(i) Mountain Reserves, (ii) River Reserves — Protected by law	9,000 6,500	
		15,500
(iii) Forest Lands, (iv) Scrub Land (including grass and grazing lands) — Not protected by law	15,000 70,875	
		85,875
TOTAL =		106,665
GRAND TOTAL =		174,365

(b) Policy and methods of management

The Crown Forest Estate. The forest policy of the Government of Mauritius may be summarised as follows:—

(i) to reserve in perpetuity sufficient land either already forested or capable of afforestation in order to safeguard and maintain water supplies, preserve the climatic and physical conditions of the Colony, prevent erosion and the silting up of reservoirs, provide forest produce for

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domestic, agricultural and industrial requirements and to maintain soil stability where the land is liable to deterioration if put to other uses;

(ii) to manage the Forest Estate so as to obtain the best returns on its capital value and the expenses of management, in so far as such returns are consistent with the primary aims set out above;

(iii) to set aside in perpetuity as ' National Reserves ' suitable areas of the native forests of Mauritius and to preserve such areas in their natural state by controlling, and preventing if possible, the intrusion and establishment of other-than-native trees and plants;

(iv) to encourage and assist the practice of sound forestry by private enterprise, and to educate selected Mauritians in technical forestry.

The forest policy has yet to receive formal approval and while the " National Reserves " are protected by law, the remainder of the Crown Forest Estate has not been reserved for protective or productive forestry.

(c) Organisation of the forestry industry. The Forest Department is directly responsible for the management of the Crown Forest Estate; all silvicultural and exploitation operations within it are conducted by the Department which is directly exploiting, converting and selling all forest produce deriving from it. Privately-owned forested lands other than those protected by law are managed by individual owners. All forest produce deriving from exploitation operations is consumed locally.

Within privately-owned forested land protected by law, i.e. Mountain and River Reserves, no felling or forestry operations of any kind may be carried out without the approval of the Government, such approval being given only in exceptional circumstances and as a general rule restricted to the removal of dead and fallen timber. The protection of these privately-owned Reserves is undertaken by the Forest Department.

(d) Initial processing of timber, sawmills. Felling and logging is carried out by means of the saw and the axe. The preference of the professional woodcutter for working on his own is very marked and the use of the axe, rather than saw and axe combined in felling —logging operations, preponderates and results in much avoidable waste. Several types of cross-cutting saw have been introduced and demonstrated but so far attempts to persuade woodcutters to work in teams have been unsuccessful. Timber is manhandled from stump

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to roadside and from there transported by lorries to sawmills, of which there were 76 operating in the Island, the majority inadequately powered.

(e) Marketing of produce. Timber from the Crown Forest Estate is sold either in the round or in converted form at the three Forest Department Timber Stores, at Port Louis, Rose Hill and Curepipe, conversion being done by three private sawmills. Fuel from the Crown Forest Estate is converted departmentally and sold in the forests to individual purchasers. A considerable quantity of fuel is converted into charcoal in the forests, the finished product being removed to and sold at the three Timber Stores.

Produce from privately-owned forests is generally sold standing to dealers in timber, firewood and charcoal, but some owners conduct their own exploitation operations.

The retail prices of forest produce from the Crown Forest Estate are appreciably lower than those charged by private traders and sawmillers.

(f) Exploitation of forest produce

A. *From Crown Forest Estate.* During the first half of the year attention was still being concentrated on the supply of poles to cyclone victims and sawn timber was being exploited at a reduced rate.

Details of forest produce exploited on Crown Forest Lands during 1961 are as follows:—

(i) *Timber, poles and billets*:

(a) *Hardwoods*:	*Cubic feet Log Volume*
(i) Eucalyptus	238,192
(ii) Camphor (*Camphora Officianarum*)	390
(iii) Tecoma (*Tabebuia pallida*)	206
(iv) Filao (*Casuarina equisetifolia*)	16,961
(v) Native species (*several*)	12,189
(vi) Others	128,790
TOTAL HARDWOODS =	396,728

(b) *Softwoods*:	*Cubic feet Log Volume*
(i) *Pinus elliottii, taeda & sinensis*	92,024
(ii) *Juniperus Bedfordiana*	1,853
(iii) *Cryptomeria Japonica*	23,527
(iv) *Araucaria*	4,226
TOTAL SOFTWOODS =	121,630
GRAND TOTAL HARDWOODS AND SOFTWOODS =	518,358

(Volumes given above include poles and billets)

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(ii) *Firewood and charcoal.* 24,303 *'cordes'* of firewood, each of 50 stacked cubic feet (equivalent to 1,215,150 cubic feet solid) together with 131,070 Kgs. of charcoal (equivalent to 32,767 cubic feet fuelwood) were produced in the Crown Forest Estate. (The volume of dry waste wood removed in head loads, free of charge, and estimated at an equivalent of 2,000 *'cordes'* or 100,000 cubic feet solid, is not included in the volumes of fuelwood given above).

B. *From privately-owned forests and leased Crown Lands*

(i) *Timber* An estimated volume of some 200,000 cubic feet of round timber, principally *'filao'* and eucalyptus was produced (accurate figures are not available).

(ii) *Firewood and charcoal.* An estimated 6,000 *'cordes'* of firewood (300,000 cubic feet solid) and 800,000 Kgs. of charcoal (200,000 cubic feet solid) were produced.

The Forest Department

Organization of the Department. The permanent establishment of the Department consisted of 163 posts inclusive of the clerical staff. The smallest administrative unit in the management of the Crown Forest Estate is the Forest Section which is normally under the control of a Forester assisted by one or more Forest Guards. Twenty-seven Forest Sections are grouped territorially into four Forest Ranges each administered by a Forest Range Officer assisted by one or more Deputy Forest Rangers. Two Forest Ranges constitute a Division which is administered by a Divisional Forest Assistant under the general control of the Conservator of Forests. Foresters and Forest Guards also serve as Timber Store Keepers, under the control of a Range Officer, to form a Utilization Range. Two Assistant Conservators of Forests are engaged on technical forestry work and a Deputy Conservator of Forests assists the Conservator in his administrative duties.

For the day-to-day conduct of forestry operations the Department employed, during 1961, an average labour force of 854 labourers and pieceworkers. These were employed on silvicultural, exploitation, road making and surveying operations, in Forest Department nurseries and at Departmental Timber Stores.

Cyclones. Tree crops suffered little damage from cyclone *Beryl,* on 25th December, 1961. Damage was, however, caused in departmental nurseries, resulting in the loss of nursery stock. Delayed-action effects of the 1960 cyclones were still evident during the first part of the year.

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Imports of timber. During 1961 a total of 640,360 cubic feet of converted timber of a gross value of Rs 4,825,734—was imported into the Colony, mainly from Malaya, Siam and Australia. Imported timber is used mainly in building construction; there is a marked local preference in its favour on account of its superior finish.

Food production. Damage by deer, pigs and monkeys in the upland forest zones restricts, to the forest plantations within the lower and warmer elevations and the coastal belt, the application of the " *taungya* " system.

Protection. The experimental plots laid out in the National Reserves received attention.

The experimental plantings on the lower slopes of Signal Mountain were satisfactorily protected against fire.

Tea Cultivation. The cultivation of tea in Crown Lands in the Midlands and Vuillemin Blocks continued and the Forest Department undertook initial clearing and road construction in order to salvage utilizable material.

Silviculture. A total area of 474 acres was newly planted during the year, principally with: *Pinus elliottii; Eucalyptus robusta, umbellata; Swietenia Mahogany.* In addition some 2,670 acres of plantations were treated under weeding, cleaning, and coppicing operations.

Output of Forest Produce

The statement below gives the estimated volume in the round (Log volume) of timber and fuelwood produced locally or imported into Mauritius during 1961:—

(*i*) *Major Forest Produce (Timber) :*

(*A*) *Local Production*	*Cubic ft.*
(*a*) Production from Crown Forests	518,358
(*b*) Production from unleased Pas Géométriques ..	1,000
(*c*) Production from privately-owned Forests and leased Pas Géométriques	200,000
TOTAL ...	719,358
B. Imports	
(*d*) Imports from 1st January to 31st December, 1961 (sawn timber 640,360 cubic feet)	1,280,720
GRAND TOTAL ...	2,000,078

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(ii) Minor Forest Produce :
(Local Production)

	Cubic ft. (solid)
(*a*) Firewood from Crown Forest Lands (stacked) cordes of 50 cubic feet	1,215,150
(*b*) Firewood from privately-owned Forest Lands or leased Crown Lands estimated 6,000 stacked cordes of 50 cubic feet	300,000
TOTAL ...	1,515,150
	Kgs.
(*c*) Charcoal from Crown Forest Lands	131,070
(*d*) Charcoal from privately-owned forested lands or leased Crown Lands (estimated)	800,000
TOTAL ...	931,070

Revenue and Expenditure. During the year 1961, the Department was responsible for expenditure of Rs 2,344,163 under the Recurrent Forestry Vote together with Rs 121,790 under Capital Expenditure voted for the delivery of poles to cyclone victims, and Rs 11,300, under Capital, for repairs to government quarters damaged by 1960 cyclones. The revenue derived from the sale of forest produce, and shooting and fishing leases, amounted to Rs 914,912, and in addition an amount of Rs 83,989 was collected and paid to Capital Revenue in respect of the sale of poles to cyclone victims, at specially reduced rates. The value of stocks on hand at 31.12.61, in Timber Stores and in the forest, was estimated at Rs 250,000.—

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Apart from the sugar, tea, tobacco and the fibre industries discussed above, various small industries, including engineering, printing and tanning, have been established in the island. Other local industries include the manufacture of rum, wine, edible oil, soap, cigarettes, aerated beverages, dairy produce, salt, lime and bricks.

Various measures for stimulating the steady growth and development of secondary industries have been taken or are under consideration. The Customs Tariff Ordinance already provides for exemptions from import duty in respect of machinery, plant and manufacture or preparation of most of the commodities which are produced in the Colony, and exemptions or other duty concessions have been granted in a number of cases. The income Tax Ordinance has recently been amended with the object of providing additional incentives: the initial and annual allowances with respect to industrial buildings, plant and machinery have been

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increased, the benefit of allowances for wear and tear has been extended to machinery let or hired, an allowance in respect of capital expenditure incurred on scientific research related to any trade has been introduced and, more significantly, tax relief over a number of years will be allowed to approved companies investing in new industries or any existing industry not operating on a scale suitable to the economic requirements of the Island. Furthermore, suitable alterations in the tariff on imports are envisaged in order to stimulate the production of manufactured goods locally, and work on a thorough revision of the Customs Tariff as a whole has begun.

The incentives given have already resulted in the production locally of a variety of goods, including car batteries, metal doors and windows, steel furniture, boot polish and spring mattresses and in the establishment of a modern sawmill and a factory for processing milk. Proposals for setting up other industrial enterprises have been received from industrialists and are under consideration.

Co-operative Societies

The co-operative movement in Mauritius and Rodrigues is guided by a Department of Government in conjunction with a secondary society: the Mauritius Co-operative Union Ltd. The movement derives financial support from another secondary society, the Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank Ltd., whilst the interests of agricultural and distributive societies are attended to by the Mauritius Co-operative Agricultural Federation Ltd., and the Mauritius Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd., respectively.

The movement is composed of 4 Secondary Societies, 328 Primary Societies comprising 32,604 members; and divided into 173 Co-operative Credit Societies of unlimited liability of which 6 are confined to lessees of Crown lands in Land Settlement Schemes, and 155 Co-operative Societies of limited liability comprising 76 Consumers' Stores Societies, 45 Societies providing savings facilities (22 in Schools, 2 for salary earners including one credit union, 21 for other persons) 18 transport Societies, 6 Marketing Societies, 5 Fishermen's Societies of which two furnished credit, 3 Housing Societies, one Printing Society and one Better Living Society.

The Department of Co-operation is responsible for the registration of new societies, including the advice, guidance and economic investigation involved in the organisation; for the audit and supervision of existing societies and for the education of officers and members in co-operative activities, in both of which it receives

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material assistanee from the staff of the Mauritius Co-operative Union Ltd.; for arbitration in disputes, and, when necessary, for the cancellation of registration and liquidation of societies. During the year the raising of standards of management, secretarial work and book-keeping and the control of credit within the consumer section of the movement, continued to engage the main attention of the department.

The Mauritius Co-operative Union Ltd., at the end of the year, had a membership of 214 societies. Its objects are to promote co-operation, to bring together co-operative institutions for common endeavour, to assist with supervision and audit, to promote education in co-operative activities and to represent the Movement. During the the year the Union provided stationery to societies upon payment, and arranged for legal advice and assistance to societies. At the end of the year the staff consisted of twelve supervisors of whom one acted as Secretary. The total revenue of the Union, for the financial year ending on 28th February, 1961, amounted to Rs 99,324 of which 26 per cent was derived from donations from Secondary Societies and 30 per cent was derived from a grant in aid from Government Rs 30,000) the balance of 44 per cent being the soiecty's revenue from audit and supervision and from legal aid fees. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies is ex officio the President of the Union and of its central and executive committees. The Deputy Registrar and two Co-operative Officers are ex officio members of the Union.

The Mauritius Co-operative Agricultural Federation Ltd., with a membership of 149 societies, acts on behalf of its societies in agricultural matters and for this purpose retains the services of a barrister and of a firm of Chartered Accountants. The Federation was represented on a number of Government boards and Committees. Its staff consists of a secretary, an assistant secretary, and a messenger.

The Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank Ltd., at the end of the financial year, had a membership of 184 societies, share capital of Rs 541,092 reserves of Rs 894,239 and deposits of over two million rupees. Loans issued amounted to 3,304,549 rather less than the previous year. Loans overdue at the end of the year totalled Rs 6,884. Loans to member societies, consisting mainly of cane-growers, are secured on the societies sugar, all of which is sold through the Bank's Secretary-Manager, who is also the Bank's broker. The rate of interest charged on loans by the Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank to the member societies varied with the Bank Rate from 6½ to 7½% and back again.

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The Mauritius Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd., with 76 members societies, had a turnover of Rs 4,789,821 for the financial year ended 28th February, 1961. The Society's share capital was Rs 129,486 and the statutory reserve amounted to Rs 85,950.

Credit Societies of Unlimited Liability

At the end of the year there were 175 credit societies of unlimited liability, of which 19 were in Rodrigues, with something over 10,000 members. The majority of the members of the Mauritius societies are cone-growers while those of the Rodrigues societies are mainly engaged in subsistence farming. On 28th February, 1961, loans by Mauritius Societies to members totalled Rs 4,178,736 and were secured by lien on the crops and by sureties. Payments to members for cane marketed through the agency of their societies amounted to Rs 17¼ million, including cyclone insurance payments. The deposits of members amounted to Rs 599,062. Share capital of all societies amounted to Rs 533,902.

Credit Societies of Limited Liability

Of the five Fishermen's Co-operative Societies of limited liability in existence at the end of the year two, one in Mauritius and one in Rodrigues, provided credit for members, the other three jointly owned fishing boats and gear, and marketed catches.

Thrift and Savings Societies

There were twenty three societies at the end of the year including one Credit Union. Two of the Societies served salary earners only. Amongst rural societies members tended to find that savings could be effected as easily and more profitably with credit societies. At the close of the financial year ended 28th February, 1961, the savings in the two salary earners societies amounted to Rs 184,256 and in other societies to Rs 353,255.

School Savings Banks

By the end of the year the number of school savings banks was reduced to twenty-two. The transitory membership inevitable in schools does not make for stability and every school society finally depends upon the hard pressed and non-resident school staff. In addition, few schools have gardens or workshops which would enable pupils to save money earned by themselves by means more constructive than obtaining it from their parents; in rural areas pocket money for children is the exception rather than the rule. In Rodrigues, however, steady progress was maintained. The three school savings banks there saved up to the close of the financial year on 28th February, 1961, Rs 13,536 whereas in Mauritius the savings were Rs 27,709.

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The Mauritius Co-operative Union continued to supply books free of charge from its Education Fund, and as a special concession to help the school savings banks to build up funds for communal activities, the Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank paid interest at 3½ per cent per annum on their deposits.

Co-operative Retail Stores

Two new Societies were registered during the year and five were cancelled. At the end of 1961 there were 76 co-operative retail stores on the register, 74 in Mauritius and 2 in Rodrigues, with a membership of over 14,000 and a turnover of over Rs 6,000,000. The majority of societies operated successfully, but a number suffered losses through defalcations, bad management and excessive credit sales. In addition to the usual bad debts reserve, all societies are building up, by allocation of surplus, what is termed a mutual aid fund intended to cover credit sales up to the amount of the fund on the basis of a maximum credit limit for each member. In this way the fund serves as a buffer against loses on credit sales and makes up for capital tied up in debts.

Marketing Societies

The marketing of green tea leaf is subject to the Tea Industry Control Ordinance, 1959 and regulations made thereunder: Green leaf is sold to factories under annual contract. No Tea Marketing Societies effected contracts for the sale of members leaf after 30th June, 1961.

Other societies marketing produce consisted of four fishermen's societies, which sold 49,629 lbs of fish valued at Rs 34,827.

Housing Societies

Three housing societies had a total membership of 300, share capital of Rs 11,310 and deposits of Rs 23,627. They were financed by Government loan and owed Rs 328,133 to the Government at the close of the financial year ended 28th February, 1961.

Printing Society

The Co-operative printing society had 847 members, a share capital of Rs 29,834, and a printing press in Port Louis. It carried out Rs 62,430 worth of printing business during its financial year ended 28th February, 1961.

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Transport Societies

The number of Transport Societies decreased to 18 by the end of 1961. Statistics for the financial year show a membership reduced to 924, paid up share capital to Rs 284,365 and a reduction in cane transported to 20,970 tons. Capital expenditure incurred by members of these societies is reimbursed from the Sugar Planters Rehabilitation Fund. Licence fees continued to be paid at the same rate as public transporters.

Better Living Society

One co-operative better-living society operated in Long Mountain. It maintained a kindergarten school for about 25 children under five years of age. The kindergarten received a subsidy from a Co-operative Credit Society.

Educational Activities

In addition to staff conferences, the staff continued to take correspondence courses in book-keeping and other subjects from the Co-operative College, Loughborough, and three of them successfully sat for examinations.

Audit

With one exception the audit of all societies' accounts for the period ending 28th February, 1961, was completed. Except in the case of three secondary societies the printing society and one salary earners thrift society which employed professional or approved auditors, the audits were carried out by the staff of the Department of Co-operation assisted by the Mauritius Co-operative Union Ltd. In addition to the annual statutory audit, interim audits were done throughout the year.

Arbitrations

Two hundred and eight disputes were referred to the Registrar during the year. The majority were referred to arbitration; appeals to the Registrar numbered eight. Most of the disputes arose from failure to pay for goods purchased on credit, others concerned stock and cash shortages in stores, and a minority a failure to repay loans. Where necessary the awards were referred for execution to the attorney retained by the Mauritius Co-operative Union Ltd. The Co-operative movement was fortunate in retaining the honorary services as arbitrators of two retired civil servants, and two retired teachers, all active members of the movement.

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TABLE

The following table gives an indication of progress made over three years: —

		1959	*1950*	*1961*
Total Societies ...		342	338	332
Total Members ...		33,514	32,420*	32,604*
Total Turnover ...	Rs	44,173,734*	44,130,209*	42,143,112*
Share Capital ...	Rs	1,759,168	1,909,840	1,948,449*
Reserve Funds ...	Rs	2,506,306*	2,793,357*	3,028,471*
Other Funds ...	Rs	578,771*	674,393*	754,783*
Government loans to Societies ...	Rs	317,132	314,490*	411,386*
Total Assets ...	Rs	12,791,369*	13,127,144*	13,217,880*

*For the year ended 28th February.

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Chapter 7: Social Services

EDUCATION

Organization

The Education (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 2 of 1960) has placed the former Education Department under the control of the Minister of Education and Cultural Affairs who is now statutorily responsible for the progress and development of the educational system of the Colony. The chief adviser of the Minister is the Permanent Secretary who is responsible for the proper administration of the Ministry.

The Education Ordinance (No. 39 of 1957) provides for the appointment by the Minister of an Advisory Board to advise him on all questions concerning education in the Colony. The Minister may also appoint sub-committees on the recommendation of the Board.

The staff of the Ministry now comprises over 4,000 officers.

Educational Facilities

In primary education the English pattern is followed, generally speaking, subject to adjustments to suit local conditions. The course lasts six years; pupils enter at the age of 5 but are allowed to stay up to the age of 12 to compete for the junior scholarships which entitle the winners to free tuition in secondary schools.

On the 31st October, 1961, there were 196 Government and Aided Primary Schools providing free education to 113,604 pupils. The 76 aided schools are managed by four Education Authorities: Roman Catholic (53 schools), Church of England (17 schools), Hindu (4 schools) and Muslim (2 schools). There were in addition 99 other primary and secondary schools registered with the Ministry with a roll of 3,987 primary school children. This number, which includes 2,756 children in the primary sections of the secondary schools brought the total number of children receiving primary education in 1961 to 117,591. Of that total 63,067 were boys and 54,524 girls.

Teachers in aided primary schools are paid by the Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs and are appointed, transferred or promoted on the recommendation of the Authority concerned. The promotion of teachers in the Government primary schools is, like that of other civil servants, subject to the Governor's approval, which is usually given on the advice of the Public Service Commission.

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According to the Education Ordinance, a total of 120 Government scholarships are obtainable on a competitive basis, 70 for boys and 50 for girls. These scholarships which provide free secondary education, free travelling and a grant of Rs 300 a year, are tenable at Government, aided and unaided secondary schools, which have been given approval as ' B ' status schools. A number of similar scholarships may be awarded to candidates from Rodrigues and to pupils of the Technical Institute.

Secondary education is almost exclusively of the grammar school type, leading to university courses. Government schools can meet only part of the demand and since 1951 a number of private schools which can offer satisfactory guarantees of proper schooling up to School Certificate or Higher School Certificate level has been subsidized. There were on the 31st October, 1,629 pupils in the three Government secondary schools, 2,602 in the subsidized schools known as "approved secondary school" and 20,620 in the unaided secondary schools. This total of 24,851 secondary pupils was made up of 16,586 boys and 8,265 girls. The 92 secondary schools comprise 3 Government, 8 grant-aided and 81 other schools.

Six scholarships are awarded annually by the Government of Mauritius to Form VI students (4 boys and 2 girls) who top the lists of candidates at the Cambridge Higher School Certificate examination. These scholarships, of an annual value of £500—£540 p.a., entitle the holders to a four to six-year university course in the U.K. or other approved countries and to a free return passage.

Twenty six scholarships were awarded during the year to Mauritian students under the Commonwealth Scholarship Plan and Teacher Training Scheme.

Apart from the College of Agriculture and Training College, there are no institutions in the Colony which provide full-time post-secondary education, and students wishing to follow university and other post-secondary courses have to go overseas. In 1961, there were over 700 students following courses in institutions of higher education in the United Kingdom, Eire, Europe, India and the U.S.A.

All those seeking permanent service in the Government and aided primary schools must pass through the Teachers' Training College at Beau Bassin. The normal course is of two years' duration but this has to be supplemented from time to time by shorter courses to meet the demand for new teachers. During the

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year, 493 (302 men and 181 women) were in training at the College or in the primary schools. Eleven temporary teachers (2 men and 9 women) were following a special short course.

Temporary accommodation was still being used in primary schools which had been damaged by cyclone *Carol* in 1960, pending the completion of the reconstruction programme.

Five new primary schools were built during the year and the construction of five other schools was being planned. Accommodation was still scarce at the end of the year and a number of schools had to operate on a double shift system up to standards IV or V.

School Health Service

The School Health Service falls under two headings: medical and dental. The medical staff comprises a Senior School Medical Officer, two School Medical Officers. The Nursing staff consists of five nurses assisted by three Health Workers. There are six dentists, assisted by Clinical and Clerical Assistants, giving part time attention to schools.

Entrants into all Government and aided primary schools and into the three Government secondary schools are medically examined. Leavers and pupils in the intermediate age group are also medically examined. Free medical treatment is provided for primary school pupils. All new teaching staff and school caretakers are medically examined and X-rayed. Teachers for transfers on medical grounds are also medically examined by the School Medical Officers.

The School Nurses and Health Wokers carry out cleanliness and health surveys (including distance vision testing) in the Primary schools.

The Medical staff is helped by an Assistant Nutritionist whose duties include giving talks on nutrition to senior pupils in primary schools and to mothers of school children and weighing and measuring pupils and rendering assistance in connexion with the school milk scheme.

Iron enriched milk is given to the pupils of the Government and aided primary schools. Extra milk, iron tablets, yeast and halibut oil capsules are issued on the recommendation of the School Medical Officers.

The dental service provides treatment to primary school pupils only. Pupils of schools in the urban areas are treated at the hospitals while schools in rural areas are visited by four Mobile

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Dental Clinics. Teeth cleaning drills are held regularly at school. Tooth brushes at a subsidised price are available for sale to primary school pupils. Nit combs and nail brushes are sold at cost price to school children and their parents.

All school health personnel are officers of the Health Department.

Handicrafts

Owing to the damage caused to primary school buildings and the consequential shortage of accommodation, school rooms used for the teaching of handicrafts, such as wood and metal work, had to be converted into ordinary class rooms. The teaching of handicrafts, such as wood and metal work, had to be converted into ordinary class rooms. The teaching of handicrafts in primary schools has been replaced by light handwork activities.

The handicraft training programme of the Government Central School and Secondary schools has remained unaffected.

The Commonwealth Technical Training Week, 1961, was celebrated from the 25th to the 31st May and was very successful.

School Broadcasts

The programmes intended for Government and aided primary schools which are equipped with radio sets were broadcast twice weekly and included the B.B.C. " Listen and Write " Series and talks entitled " Things we use ". There were also twice weekly broadcasts to the secondary schools mainly of B.B.C. material.

Visual and Aural Education

The activities of the Visual Aids Section include the drawing up of weekly film show programmes for the Government and aided primary schools, giving previews of the films to teachers on Saturdays, going round the Government and aided primary schools to show the films, and distributing visual aid materials (filmstrips, picture sets, photographs) to those schools. This year the Mobile Unit again visited all primary schools, once in each school term, and a second operator visited Government and Approved Secondary Schools on a fortnightly basis. The Visual Aids Section was also frequently on call to provide public address facilities and recorded music on school and Youth Organisation outdoor occasions. During the School Certificate Examinations the Section was also responsible for playing back tape-recorded dictations in examination centres.

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Music

Dr. William Cole, a well known London musician, was this year's visiting examiner on behalf of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music. Out of 36 class singing entries from Secondary schools, all passed: 7 with Distinction and 18 with Merit. Ninety practical grade candidates entered for piano, violin, cello, flute, clarinet, organ and solo singing examinations, and 85 passed. Thee were also 50 successful written grade candidates. This is the fourth year these examinations have been held in Mauritius.

The Teachers' Orchestra was heard for the first time at two concerts in connection with the Commonwealth Technical Training Week, and also at the Distribution of Music Certificates.

Further Education

Post-secondary continuation classes provide instruction on a fee-paying basis in commercial subjects (with a view to those enrolled taking the London Chamber of Commerce and Royal Society of Arts examination) and also in art, bookbinding, woodwork and weaving.

Science extension classes provide laboratory facilities for students reading for the G.C.E., Intermediate and Final B.Sc. examinations, and for local examinations in Pharmacy. The subject studied are Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Botany and Zoology.

Youth Organisations

Special emphasis continued to be placed during the year on the expansion of the Youth movement in the rural areas. There are now six regional federations with executive committees elected from clubs and organizations. Representatives from the federations are members of the Youth Council which is the body officially recognised by the World Assembly of Youth.

Facilities are being provided for approximately 36,000 young people between the ages of 15 and 25 years. 760 Clubs and Organisations are affiliated to Youth House and the District Federations.

Expenditure

Expenditure on Education, during the financial year 1960–61 amounted to 22.99 million of which 19.66 million was recurrent and 3.33 million was capital expenditure. Recurrent expenditure represents very nearly 14 per cent of total Government expenditure of a recurrent nature.

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PUBLIC HEALTH

The medical services are administered by a Director of Medical Services, assisted by two deputies. They are organised into nine divisions and form one of the largest Government departments.

The functions of the Medical and Health Department are:

(a) to investigate the influence of social, environmental and domestic factors on the incidence of human disease and disability;

(b) to plan and carry out measures for the promotion of health;

(c) to institute and maintain measures for the prevention of disease;

(d) to provide a quarantine service to prevent the introduction of infectious diseases by sea or air;

(e) to provide facilities for treatment of disease, including mental disease, by maintenance of hospital and dispensary services;

(f) to make provision for the rehabilitation of the disabled;

(g) to control the practice of medicine, dentistry and pharmacy;

(h) to provide facilities for the training of nurses, midwives, sanitary officers, etc.

(i) to advise local authorities regarding their health services and to inspect those services;

(j) to prepare and publish reports and statistical or other information relating to health.

General Health

The improvement in health conditions during the past few years, as demonstrated by the following statistical figures, is one of of the most notable features in the recent history of the Colony. The figures for 1961 for the death rate, infantile mortality and maternal mortality are the lowest on record.

Year	*Birth rate per °/₀₀*	*Death rate per °/₀₀*	*Infant Mortality rate per °/₀₀*	*Maternal Mortality rate per °/₀₀*
1938 ...	33·4	29·9	162·5	11·38
1943 ...	33·1	25·9	141·5	5·14
1950 ...	49·7	13·9	76·3	3·51
1955 ...	41·8	12·9	67·2	1·47
1956 ...	43·8	11·8	66·0	2·13
1957 ...	43·1	13·0	75·1	2·84
1958 ...	40·8	11·8	67·4	3·73
1959 ...	38·5	10·9	62·5	2·41
1960 ...	39·6	11.3	69.5	1.66
1961 ...	39·8	9·9	62.0	1·14

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Malaria

Although malaria has ceased to be a public health problem since 1953, a plan for the final eradication of the disease is being implemented with the guidance and technical help of the World Health Organisation. The number of cases of malaria detected during the year was 949. The figures below indicate the fall in the death rate due to malaria.

Year	*Deaths ascribed to malaria*	*Rate per 0/00 population*	*Percentage of deaths due to malaria to total deaths*
1945 ...	3,534	8·34	23·13
1948 ...	1,580	3·58	15·02
1951 ...	285	0·59	3·95
1952 ...	188	0·37	2·52
1953 ...	61	0·12	0·73
1954 ...	27	0·05	0·32
1955 ...	3	0·00	0·04
1956 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1957 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1958 ...	1	0·00	0·01
1959 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1960 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1961 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil

Infective and Parasitic Diseases

There has been an increase in the number of cases of diphtheria and a decrease in the incidence of typhoid.

Year	*Deaths ascribed to infective and parasitic diseases*
1948 ...	4,052
1949 ...	1,603
1951 ...	863
1954 ...	665
1955 ...	311
1956 ...	354
1957 ...	416
1958 ...	315
1959 ...	263
1960 ...	403
1961 ...	320

Poliomyelitis

There was no case notified during the year. Trivalent Sabin vaccine was fed to children between 15 months and 27 months and to pupils in the pre-primary schools. In this age group (15 months–5 yeas) 7,848 received 1 dose, 19,535 received 2 doses and 3,034 received 3 doses of the vaccine.

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Enteric Fever

71 cases of enteric fever were notified, giving an incidence rate of 11 per 100,000.

Mortality Rates

Mortality from the principal groups of diseases is hereunder summarised:—

Group	*Number of deaths*		
	1959	*1960*	*1961*
(*a*) Infective and parasitic diseases	263	403	320
(*b*) Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs ...	393	413	349
(*c*) Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs	410	429	513
(*d*) Diseases of the circulation system	650	800	766
(*e*) Diseases of the digestive system	914	1,035	902
(*f*) Diseases of the respiratory system	797	798	666
(*g*) Certain diseases of early infancy	722	725	716

Institutional Facilities

The institutional facilities which were available in 1961 are tabulated hereunder:

	No.	*Beds*
(a) *Government Institutions*		
1 General Hospitals	8	1,512
2. Dispensaries (including 2 in the prisons)	42	—
3. Outpatient departments of Hospitals	11	—
4. Specialized Units : -		
(*a*) Maternity and Child Welfare Centres	29	—
(*b*) Maternity wards in hospitals	6	125
(*c*) Leprosarium	1	61
(*d*) Mental Hospital	1	753
(*e*) Prisons Hospitals	2	46
(*f*) Tuberculosis (Emergency)	1	76
5. Mobile Units :—		
(*a*) Dispensaries	5 units	
(*b*) Ante-natal Clinic	1 unit	
(*c*) Dental clinic	4 units	
(b) *Private Institutions*		
1. Sugar estate hospitals	27	544
2. Sugar estate dispensaries	19	—
3. Nursing homes and clinics	5	89

There are 32 dispensaries in the rural areas. In addition a Mobile Dispensary Service comprising five units caters for the needs of scattered villages and hamlets where it would be uneconomic to provide a static out-patient service.

The Ante-natal Service is supplemented by a Mobile Unit which visits 81 localities in the extra urban and rural districts.

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Medical and Health Staff

	Government	*Private*
1. Registered Medical Practitioners	98	64
2. Dentists	6	25
3. Pharmacists	3	51
4. Nurses of senior training ...	10	—
Nurses in hospitals	260	—
Dressers in hospitals	284	—
5. Midwives (all categories) ...	65	—
6. Sanitary Inspectors	62	—
7. X-Ray Specialists	3	—
8. X-Ray Technicians	8	—

Expenditure on Health Services

Government expenditure on medical and health services in the financial year 1960–61 was Rs 15,599,462 or 11.07 per cent of the Colony's total expenditure for the year. This represented Rs 24.04 per head of the estimated population.

Housing and Planning

Town and Country Planning

The introduction to Mauritius of the practices of Town and Country Planning suffered from lack of survey staff and equipment. The essential liaison between the Central and the Local Authorities and the Town and Country Planning Officer, however, improved and will be further improved when more local Planning Committees are formed. Progress was made on the research work required for the Outline Planning Schemes for the six declared planning areas. Draft schemes were prepared also for the development of certain areas of Central Housing Authority development and for parts of Pas Géométriques.

Housing

The island has by no means fully recovered from the two disastrous cyclones of 1960. Construction work under the cyclone housing scheme, however, is well in hand and during the year contracts were placed for 9,000 houses. Owing to the concentration of new houses in urban areas, various modifications to the original cyclone housing scheme are under consideration. It is hoped that the temporary refugee shelters which were built immediately after the cyclone will be dismantled by 1962–63 and that by then most of the occupants will be rehoused in new homes. Funds available for loan to the Local Authorities for public housing were limited on account of the large scale public housing undertaken by the Central Housing Authority. The only scheme for middle class

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housing undertaken by a Local Authority was the Vallée Pitot Housing Scheme, work on which had been in progress before the cyclones of 1960; the number of housing units under construction is 116.

Cadastral Survey

In May 1961, Mr. L. S. Himely, F.R.I.C.S., formerly of the Overseas Survey Service presented a report on the registration of title to land and legislation necessary for the undertaking of a cadastral survey of the island; the views of various interested institutions on this report are being sought.

Public Assistance

Outdoor Relief

The basic organisation for the registration, investigation and adjudication of applications for outdoor relief, remained the same in 1961 as in 1960.

New applications received in 1961 amounted to 19,309 of which 15,069 were approved, while 15,244 allowances were withdrawn from the register during the year. The total number of cases on roll at 31st December 1961, was 21,482 as compared with 21,603 at the end of the preceding year.

The basic scale rates which were introduced in 1952 by the Outdoor Relief Committee (Darlow Committee) and altered in 1953, with effect from July, 1952, provided for an increase of Rs 1.50 per adult and Re 1 per child to meet changes in the cost of living. These scale rates were further increased early in 1958 by the same amount with effect from the 1st July, 1957.

The total amount disbursed on Outdoor Relief in 1961 was Rs 7,847,633.25 the average regular monthly payment being Rs. 27.96 as against Rs 28.01 for 1960.

Relief in kind

The number and cost of blankets and flannel under-garments distributed to needy recipients of outdoor relief during the winter season in 1961, as compared with 1960, are as under:

Year	*Blankets Units*	*Flannels Units*	*Total cost Rs*
1960 ...	5,166	1,309	44,408.00
1961 ...	10,101	599	33,837.10

In addition to these comforts, 827 pairs of spectacles and 30 lenses to the value of Rs 10,492.74 were also issued to recipients of Outdoor Relief and to Old Age Pensioners in 1961 on the recommendation of the eye specialist.

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Workrooms

Work in lieu of relief continued to be provided in the workrooms throughout the year to 44 persons mostly widows with large families. Their total earnings for the year on a piece-rate basis amounted to Rs 56,123.11 as follows:

	Rs
Lingerie (out-workers)	10,951.06
Sergerie and Uniforms (in-workers) ...	45,172.05
TOTAL ...	56,123.11

The average monthly earning was therefore Rs 106.29 per relief worker.

Indoor Relief

There was no addition in 1961 to the number of institutions providing indoor treatment.

The number of inmates in the infirmaries and orphanages at the end of 1961, including harmless mental patients transferred from the Brown Sequard Hospital, was as under:

	Male	*Female*	*Total*
Infirm ...	333	299	632
Orphans ...	75	101	176

as compared with 674 infirms and 176 orphans at the end of the preceding year.

The capitation grant for both adults and children in the Charitable Institutions continued to be Rs 1.20 per head per day.

The sheds at Cannoniers Point having been converted into a T.B. Hospital, no holiday camp for the inmates of the orphanages could be organised. However, outings to the sea-side for the benefit of the inmates were arranged as in the previous years and were, as usual, very much appreciated.

Frequent visits were paid in 1961 to the various institutions by members of voluntary organisations who distributed sweets and cigarettes to inmates and provided them with musical and other entertainment.

Old Age Pensions

An old age pension of Rs 22 per month is payable to persons who qualify for such under the Old Age Pension Ordinance, 1951, as subsequently amended. 4,274 new cases were dealt with during the year of which 3,718 were granted. The cases turned down were mainly those in respect of persons not fulfilling the required statutory conditions in regard to residence. The number of old age pensioners at the end of 1961 was 28,445 and the total disbursements during the year amounted to Rs 7,504,930 as against Rs 7,281,612 in 1960.

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Repatriation

Expenditure of Rs 18,683.69 was incurred in 1961 on the repatriation of 18 destitutes Mauritians from abroad.

The number of repatriates on record at the end of 1961 was 92 and repayments amounting to Rs 5,574.77 were effected by liable parties during the year.

Relief to destitute Mauritians abroad.

During the year there were nine persons in receipt of " hard core " relief. The total amount disbursed in 1961 was Rs 7,816.13 as against Rs 16,105.94 the previous year.

Cyclone Beryl

In December 1961, Mauritius was visited by cyclone *"Beryl"*. Though of moderate intensity,, the cyclone caused appreciable damage to the temporary shelters built after *Carol* in 1960, the occupants of which had to be moved to the schools improvised into Refugee Centres. In this work the British Red Cross (Mauritius Division) were of considerable assistance. The number of refugees who had taken shelter in these refugee shelters after the cyclone was 22,532. Post cyclone work involved a fair amount of emergency relief measures including the issue of Food Vouchers through the agency of the Primary School Teachers to the victims of the cyclone. Some Rs 368,000 was spent to relieve cyclone victims.

SOCIAL WELFARE

The Social Welfare Department was created in July, 1953, and was made responsible for social welfare and the Probation service which were previously the responsibility of the Public Assistance and the Judicial Departments. The Department works in close co-operation with other Government departments and voluntary social service organizations and is associated with the Ministry of Health and Reform Institutions.

In June 1958, a Social Development Board was set up to replace the Social Welfare Advisory Committee, and to advise the Minister on all social development matters which he may refer to the Board, and to enlist the co-operation and to co-ordinate the activities of all voluntary organizations in the field of social welfare.

Social Welfare Centres

There were 17 Social Welfare Centres, built or rented by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund Committee, in the rural districts and the first Government Social Welfare Centre built at Roche Bois on the outskirts of Port Louis was completed during this year. It was formally opened on 25th May, 1961. These

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18 Centres play an important part in the development of community activities and in the general social education of the people in the rural areas. They also provide certain medical facilities. A maternity and child welfare service is attached to each centre and milk is distributed free while doctors, paid by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund Committee, attend to expectant and nursing mothers reporting to the centre. Arrangements have also been made for the provision of a midwifery service: 2 midwives have been attached by the Medical Department to each of 12 centres and in the remaining 6 the midwifery service is run under the technical supervision of the Medical Department out of funds provided largely by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund.

In all villages where they exist, social welfare centres are the focal points for afternoon and evening activities. Indoor games, sports, and listening to the radio are the main activities. In some centres there are formal literary classes, supplemented from time to time by debates and lectures. Film shows by mobile cinema units are a regular feature at each centre.

Agricultural demonstration plots have been set up at some social welfare centres with a view to teaching the local farmers how production can be increased by the adoption of modern methods of cultivation. Vegetable growers are also encouraged to organise themselves into Farmers' Clubs.

Needlework and dressmaking classes are held at each centre for the benefit of the village girls.

Canteens, where non-alcoholic drinks are sold at a reasonable price for consumption on the premises, have been set up with a view to combating the evils of alcoholism.

The centres are managed by local committees and conferences grouping the chairmen of these committees are held from time to time under the chairmanship of the Social Welfare Commissioner to co-ordinate the various welfare activities.

Welfare Months

To stimulate community activities the holding of welfare months at social welfare centres has proved to be a successful technique. During the month chosen, a health exhibition is held at the centre where officers of departments such as Agriculture, Health, Education, and Social Welfare give lectures and demonstrations to the people, drawing their attention to the problems of the village and suggesting solutions. Local women's associations, boys' clubs, co-operative societies and other welfare organizations are closely associated in the holding of these welfare months.

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Women's Welfare

The development of women's associations is being encouraged, especially in the rural areas. The aim of these associations is to bring the women together to learn things which will be of help in their homes, to improve conditions in the village, and to develop a spirit of friendliness, co-operation and initiative. There were 68 such associations registered with the Social Welfare Department at the end of 1961.

Most of these associations run a sewing class for the benefit of the girls of the village and there is also a fortnightly sewing class held by a dressmaker employed by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund. In some places a handicraft class is held.

Instead of a Central exhibition of hand work, there were during the last months of the Year a sale of works on a regional basis.

Voluntary Workers' Conference

The Social Welfare Department organises from time to time conferences of voluntary workers to discuss ways and means of developing the rural areas and raising the standard of living.

Anti-spitting Campaign

An island wide anti-spitting campaign lasting a month was started in July 1960. Its result has been most encouraging as it has brought home to the general public the danger of indiscriminate spitting. In 1961 as a follow up a campaign of one week was carried out in April.

Treatment of Offenders

The probation system introduced in the Island in 1946 has made satisfactory progress. Probation applies to both juveniles and adults and it is worthy of note that more adults than juveniles pass through the hands of Probation Officers. A certain amount of social work connected with the Courts (e.g. settling matrimonial disputes, handling of difficult children), is also undertaken by Probation Officers, many of whom have been trained in the United Kingdom.

The Probation Service pays particular attention to the prevention of delinquency. One means adopted is to urge youths in villages to take advantage of the amenities available in social welfare centres and thus put their leisure to profitable use.

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Probationers are required to report to Probation Officers in social welfare centres, where these exist, instead of going to the Court. In a Welfare Centre the Probation Officer can spend more time with the individual delinquent child and is in a better position to enforce rehabilitation measures than would otherwise be possible.

The first Probation Hostel for boys was opened in May, 1954. It is non-denominational and is managed by a representative committee. A new Probation Hostel building, much larger than the former one, has been set up on the same site at Curepipe. It was completed in March 1961 and it can accommodate 20 boys. There were 19 boys at the end of the year in the hostel: they were regularly employed outside the hostel, half of their earnings going towards their keep. Voluntary workers help the management in regard to the education and health of the inmates.

In the field of after-care, Probation Officers help with the rehabilitation of juveniles released from the Industrial School and from Borstal.

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Chapter 8: Legislation

Seventy-one Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council and assented to by the Governor during the year 1961. The most important of these Ordinances which deal principally with matters of domestic concern are:

The Central Housing Authority (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 1 of 1961)

This Ordinance provides for the protection of the interests of any inscribed mortgagee on any property respecting which the owner thereof applies for a loan from the Authority. It also makes provision for the compulsory acquisition of the property by the Authority and the compensation to be paid in such cases to inscribed mortgagees.

The Sale of Canes (Control) (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 5 of 1961)

This Ordinance lays down that, before closing down any sugar factory a miller must obtain the consent of the Minister. It further stipulates the amount of sugar, scums and molasses which planters shall be entitled to receive for canes supplied to a factory.

The Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 8 of 1961)

This Ordinance provides that the income arising out of the investment of sums from the revenues of a benevolent association or of a trade union shall be exempt from tax up to maximum of one thousand rupees.

The Distribution of Fodder (Control) Ordinance (No. 10 of 1961)

This Ordinance empowers the Minister to proclaim Emergency Fodder Areas to help animal breeders. The Director of Agriculture may grant permits for the removal of fodder from any land not used for residential purposes and provision is made for compensation to the occupier.

The General Cyclone and Drought Reserve Fund (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 11 of 1961)

This Ordinance gives the Minister a wider discretion in directing the use of that part of the Fund set aside for grants or loans made necessary by droughts or cyclones. It further enacts that the whole Ordinance shall apply to the dependencies.

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The Riots Ordinance
(No. 12 of 1961)

This Ordinance amends and consolidates the law relating to civil disturbances. The Riots Ordinance (Cap. 299 of laws of Mauritius) is hereby repealed. The main changes are (1) a reduction from twelve to five of the number of persons whose gathering may constitute an unlawful assembly (ii) a provision enabling the Governor to order the surrender of all arms and ammunition possessed by any person if he (the Governor) considers it necessary.

The Public Meetings and Processions (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 13 of 1961)

This Ordinance gives wider powers to Police Officers (not below the rank of Assistant Superintendent to arrest and bring before a magistrate any person committing an offence under the Ordinance.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Security (Integration) Ordinance
(No. 18 of 1961)

This Ordinance provides for the integration of the Ministry of Labour and Social Security and the departments of Labour and Public Assistance. It makes the Minister responsible for all matters concerning labour and social security.

The Employment and Labour (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 21 of 1961)

This Ordinance amends the Labour Ordinance (Cap. 214 Laws of Mauritius) and changes its title to that of Employment and Labour Ordinance. It applies to all employees (besides domestic servants) whose wages or salary do not exceed six thousand rupees per annum. It provides *inter alia (a)* that three months' notice must be given to or by any employee who has given three years continuous service in case of termination of the agreement *(b)* that no employee shall be bound to work for more than six days a week or more than eight hours a day *(c)* that overtime shall be paid at one and a half times the normal rate on week days and at double the normal rate on Sundays and Public Holidays *(d)* that female employees nursing their child shall be allowed half an hour twice a day for that purpose and *(e)* that job contractors must be licensed by and subject to the strict control of the Labour Commissioner.

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The Plaines Wilhems Sewerage (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 26 of 1961)

This Ordinance provides that instead of being appellate tribunals whose decisions are final, the District Courts shall entertain, in the exercise of their original jurisdiction, all claims for compensation against the Sewerage Board, and that an appeal by way of case stated shall lie to the Supreme Court on a question of law.

The Surveys and Valuation Branch of the Ministry of Works and Internal Communication (transfer) Ordinance (No. 30 of 1961)

This Ordinance transfers control of matters relating to Surveys and Valuations from the Ministry of Works and Internal Communications to the Ministry of Housing, Lands and Town and Country Planning.

The Cinematograph (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 31 of 1961)

This Ordinance empowers the Minister to make regulations, if necessary, to fix the prices of admission at cinematograph exhibitions.

The Sugar Industry Reserve Funds (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 33 of 1961)

This Ordinance gives wider powers to the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund Committee in the exercise of its discretion to grant loans for the construction of houses for persons employed by or connected with the Sugar Industry. It further exempts the houses built under the Ordinance from the provisions of the Building Ordinance.

The Foreign Judgments (Reciprocal Enforcement) Ordinance (No. 35 of 1961)

This Ordinance is a sequel to the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments Ordinance (Cap. 201 of Laws of Mauritius) and provides for the enforcement in Mauritius of the judgments of superior courts of those foreign countries which grant equal recognition to judgments of the Supreme Court of Mauritius.

The Pensions (Gratuities and Options) (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 38 of 1961)

This Ordinance provides for considering, in certain cases, a period of acting service in an office as being pensionable service.

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The District Courts (Criminal Jurisdiction) (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 39 of 1961)

This Ordinance provides that in the case of offences punishable by a fine only *(a)* the accused may plead guilty by registered post *(b)* the magistrate may proceed to hear and determine the case in the absence of the accused if it is proved that the summons to appear was duly served personally. It further provides that, in the absence of the Magistrate, the clerk of the Court or any Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent of Police may bail out any person arrested in connection with an offence within the summary jurisdiction of the District Court or of the Intermediate Criminal Court.

The Firearms (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 44 of 1961)

This Ordinance gives Police officers wider powers to inspect firearms and to arrest suspected offenders under this Ordinance.

The Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 49 of 1961)

This Ordinance, with a view to helping industrial and agricultural development, provides for certain allowances to the promoters of industry, agriculture and scientific research. It also enables the Minister to grant a tax relief period to any certified new development company. It further allows employees to cause their tax to be deducted from their salary and paid by the employer.

The Colonial Secretary (Change of Title) Ordinance
(No. 51 of 1961)

This Ordinance provides for the change of title of the Colonial Secretary into that of Chief Secretary.

The Mauritius Naval Volunteer Force Ordinance
(No. 55 of 1961)

This Ordinance repeals the Mauritius Naval Volunteer Force Ordinances of 1948. It amends and consolidates the law relating to the Establishment, recruiting and duties of the Mauritius Naval Volunteer Force.

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The Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 58 of 1961)

This Ordinance gives additional powers to the Registrar of Cooperative Societies to determine the responsibility for losses incurred by a Society and to take action against any past or present office bearer or manager who owes money to the Society.

The Licences (Amendment) Ordinance, the Liquor (Amendment) Ordinance, the Shops (Amendment) Ordinance
(Nos. 59, 60, and 61 of 1961)

These Ordinances provide for the licensing of night clubs and the granting of liquor licences to such establishments. They also fix the opening and closing times for night clubs.

The Family Allowance Ordinance
(No. 62 of 1961)

This Ordinance deals with the administrative requirements for the establishment of the machinery for the grant of family allowances. It lays down that all Mauritian residents who are not liable to income tax and who have a family of three or more children will be entitled to a family allowance.

The Notaries (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 63 of 1961)

This Ordinance provides that notaries shall communicate with the Chief Archivist in order to ensure that the originals or duplicates of all notarial deeds drawn up between 1900 and 1955 are available in good and proper condition.

The Government Social Welfare Centres Ordinance
(No. 64 of 1961)

This Ordinance provides for the establishment and administration of as many social welfare centres as are deemed necessary to further health, advance education, provide facilities for mental and physical training and generally for recreation and for social, moral and intellectual development.

The Workmen's compensation (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 69 of 1961)

This Ordinance provides greater facilities to injured workmen for obtaining compensation. It extends the provisions of the Ordinance to domestic servants and raises the scale on which compensation is calculated.

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The Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 70 of 1961)

This Ordinance places under the control of the Electoral Commissioner the elections for the Village Councils and extends the provision of the parent ordinance to such elections.

The Regulation of Wages and Conditions of Employment Ordinance
(No. 71 of 1961)

This Ordinance repeals the Minimum Wages Ordinance, 1950, and provides for the appointment of minimum wage boards and the establishment of wage councils for the regulation of remuneration and conditions of employment of workers in certain circumstances.

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Chapter 9 : Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

The laws of Mauritius are basically the old French Codes: the Civil Code, the Penal Code, the Code de Commerce and the Code of Civil Procedure, to which a number of amendments have been made from time to time to suit local conditions.

The Bankruptcy Law, the Company Law, the Law of Evidence and the Law of Criminal Procedure are, however, almost entirely based on English law. A number of imperial enactments are made applicable to Mauritius e.g. The Merchant Shipping Acts and other matters governed by Orders in Council. A large number of local enactments, based mostly on English Law or that of other colonial territories, govern a variety of subjects e.g. Labour Laws, Coinage, Official Secrets, Gambling Houses, Obscene Publications.

The highest judicial authority is the Supreme Court of the Colony of Mauritius and its Dependencies consisting of the Chief Justice, one Senior Puisne Judge and two Puisne Judges.

The Chief Executive Officer of the Supreme Court is the Master and Registrar who, in addition to other judicial functions, exercises jurisdiction in bankruptcy concurrently with the Judges of the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court is a superior Court of record and has the same powers (including equitable powers), authority and jurisdiction as the High Court of Justice in England. It exercises jurisdiction in divorce and probate matters, and also Admiralty jurisdiction in virtue of the Colonial Courts of Admiralty Act, 1890. It has powers of supervision over all the other Courts of the Colony and hears appeals from the Supreme Court of the Colony of Seychelles in civil matters.

Appeals lie to the Privy Council in certain cases against judgments of the Supreme Court.

The Judges of the Supreme Court preside over the Assizes, the verdict being returned by a jury of nine men, the decision requiring a majority of at least seven out of the nine members.

Since the 1st January, 1955, there has been set-up a Court of Criminal Appeal. The Chief Justice and the Judges of the Supreme Court are the Judges of that Court which is constituted by three Judges. That Court hears appeals from persons convicted before the Supreme Court.

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Since the 1st August, 1960, a Criminal Court, styled the Intermediate Criminal Court, has been instituted to replace with enlarged jurisdiction the Bench of Magistrates, and to ensure more expeditious trials of important criminal cases. The Intermediate Criminal Court has concurrent jurisdiction with the Assize Court to try cases of Involuntary Homicide, Arson, Bigamy, and Procuring miscarriage which before the 1st August, 1960, were exclusively within the jurisdiction of the Assize Court. The Intermediate Criminal Court consists of three Senior Magistrates. It has jurisdiction to try criminal cases occuring all over the Island and has power to impose sentences not exceeding 5 years' penal servitude.

The District Magistrates of the Colony have jurisdiction in civil cases in which the subject matter does not exceed Rs 3,000 in value. They hold judicial enquiries in cases of fire or accidental death, and preliminary enquiries in cases triable by the Assize Court. In addition they deal with certain matters in Chambers.

The summary jurisdiction of a District Court in criminal matters is vested in a District Magistrate who deals with the less serious offences and is empowered to sentence an accused party to imprisonment with or without hard labour, for a term not exceeding one year, and to a fine not exceeding Rs 1,000.

In addition to the three Magistrates who sit on the Intermediate Criminal Court there are now 11 Magistrates of whom one administers justice in Rodrigues and is also Civil Commissioner for that Dependency.

A Visiting Magistrate inspects each of the Lesser Dependencies once a year.

There is in addition an Industrial Court which is presided over by a Magistrate and which has exclusive jurisdiction—subject to appeal or review—in all labour disputes including workmen's compensation cases and matters arising out of factory legislation.

Administrative control of the Magistracy which hitherto was vested in the Head of the Legal Department has, since 1945, been transferred to the Chief Justice.

The majority of the civil cases brought before District Courts concern claims for money, or possession of tenement, or ownership of land.

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On the criminal side, most of the cases, other than petty breaches of the law, relate to offences involving fraud, e.g. larceny, embezzlement, forgery, or swindling, or offences against the person, e.g., wounds and blows, indecent acts and assaults, or breaches of the road traffic laws.

During the year 1961, seven cases were brought before the Court of Assizes. One case went before the Court of Criminal Appeal.

There were 662 civil cases entered before the Supreme Court as compare with 520 in 1960. 869 cases were entered before the Industrial Court as compared with 431 in 1960. 157 cases were enterer before the Intermediate Criminal Court and 4,409 civil cases and 24,715 criminal cases were heard by the District Courts.

POLICE

Functions

The functions of the Mauritius Police Force are prescribed by section 14 of the Police Ordinance (Cap. 312). They include preserving the public peace, the prevention and detection of crimes, misdemeanours and contraventions, the regulation of road traffic, the execution of warrants and summonses issued by the Courts, and the conduct of prosecutions in Court.

In addition to their primary task of maintaining law and order, the Police are responsible for the control of immigration and emigration, weights and measures, the issue of certain licences and the collection of the fees therefor, the supervision of licensed premises, and other extraneous duties.

Strength

The Police Force consists of a Commissioner of Police, and of such Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Constables as the Legislature may authorise from time to time. The authorised establishment of the Force at the 31st December, 1961, was 35 Officers and 1,192 other ranks, inclusive of 31 Police Women and 2 Accounting Machine Operators; its actual strength was 35 Officers and 1,158 other ranks including 29 Police Women employed on clerical work and 2 accounting machine operators.

Organization

The Commissioner of Police, assisted by the Deputy Commissioner of Police and other officers, has his Headquarters at Line Barracks in Port Louis.

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The personnel of the Force is distributed between:

(a) Police Headquarters and the following Branches or Sections:

(i) The Forensic Science Laboratory
(ii) The Criminal Investigation Division
(iii) The Immigration and Passport Section
(iv) The Road Traffic Branch
(v) The Transport and Communications Section
(vi) The Training School and Reserve
(vii) The Band
(viii) The Railway Police
(ix) The Water Police
(x) The Pay and Quartermaster's Branch
(xi) The Rodrigues Police Detachment.

(b) Six Police Districts, controlling 48 stations and posts.

The Forensic Science Laboratory

This important institution was set up in 1938 and maintains a high degree of professional competence. It is under the charge of the Police Medical Officer, who is assisted by a suitably trained staff. The Laboratory deals with the scientific examination of exhibits, and other aspects of crimes requiring scientific investigation.

The Criminal Investigation Division

This Division, which has its Headquarters in Port Louis and field staff attached to every District, is responsible for the investigation of serious crimes and cases of a special nature such as frauds and defalcations. It is also responsible for collating the statistics of crime for the whole Island. To the Central C.I.D. Headquarters are attached the Finger Print and *Modus Operandi Bureau,* the Central Records of Habitual Criminals, the Firearm Licences Section and the Bicycle Registration Section.

Finger Print and Modus Operandi Bureau. During the year, 124 scenes were visited by the staff and articles bearing finger prints were brought to the Finger Print Office by the District Police in 138 cases. Decipherable prints were found in 153 cases and 31 identifications were made. In ten cases finger prints were the sole evidence available against the accused parties. In 31 cases documents bearing finger prints were referred to the Finger Print Office and in 23 cases identity was established. The finger print slips of 17,488 criminals (male and female) are on record. The "scene of crime" collection contains 184 photographs of unindentified prints found at scenes of crime. The palm print collection contains 2,320 prints, 656 criminals are on the Findex System.

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Photographic Section. The photographic work done by the section during the year was of valuable assistance: 14,466 photographs supplied by the section included 78 crime scenes and 114 scenes of fatal or serious accidents. 603 criminals were photographed and 13 dead bodies were photographed to assist identification. 602 photographs were also supplied for warrant cards isued to members of the Force, the Special (Mobile) Force, and Special Constables.

Habitual Criminals Supervision is maintained over habitual criminals and bad characters who are sentenced to police supervision by the Courts. There were 1,997 re-convicted male criminals in the Island, including 122 first offenders re-convicted during the year.

Firearms Firearms are strictly controlled. The number of firearms licensed during the year was 5,841.

Handwriting. In conjunction with the Forensic Science Laboratory the C.I.D. carry out the examination of documents and the identification of handwriting and typewriting in relation to cases of forgery and kindred offences.

Other Duties of the C.I.D. The Vice and Flying Squads of the C.I.D., among their other duties, help throughout the Island to enforce the laws relating to dangerous drugs, gambling, prostitution, illicit distillation, illegal transport and manufacture of rum and liquor, shop hours, distilleries, illegal slaughtering, private clubs, etc.

Dangerous Drugs. A total of 93 cases under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance were prosecuted by the Police during the year, of which 86 were for possession of Gandia, 6 for cultivation of the plant, 1 for possesion of prepared opium and none for possesion of raw opium. 14,361 plants of gandia were uprooted and secured. 9 kgs 831.5 grams of gandia, 4 grams of gandia seed, 25 grams of prepared opium and no raw opium were secured.

The Immigration and Passport Section

During the year, 2,894 passports were issued, 443 renewed and 168 visaed. 172 emergency certificates of nationality, 4 collective passports and 22 Seaman's certificates of nationality and identity were issued, and 63 forms of affidavit in lieu of passport were registered. The immigration staff attended 460 ships arriving in Port Louis and 344 aircraft at Plaisance Airport. 11,782 persons entered the Colony, including 318 immigrants and 12,877 left, including 851 emigrants.

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Road Traffic Branch

The Road Traffic Branch is responsible for driving tests and the issue of drivers' licences, and the examination of motor vehicles for fitness and roadworthiness; 10,077 vehicles were tested, and 5,656 persons took driving tests, of whom 2,019 were successful.

The number of registered motor vehicles increased from 13,172 in 1959 to 14,466 at the end of 1960, and 15,669 at the end of 1961. There were 2,964 accidents as compared with 3,119 in 1960. The decrease in number of accidents, compared with the ever increasing volume of traffic on the road, results from the mesures taken to ensure road safety and, enforce the traffic laws, lncluding widening and surface repairing of roads, increased mobile and foot patrols, regular speed checks, education of drivers and pedestrians, as well as lectures to 112,314 school children, the maintaining of 183,205 feet of traffic lines, the setting up of more traffic signs, traffic islands and roundabouts.

Transport and Communications Branch

The Transport and Communications Branch has under its control a Transport Unit and a radio-telephone network. The Transport Unit consists of: —

Motor Cycles	... ...	54
Land Rovers	... ...	19
Vans and Light Trucks	...	8 (including 1 mortuary van)
Prisoners' Vans	... ...	3
Lorries	... ...	9 (including a mobile canteen)
Motor cars	... ...	32 (including 24 W/T cars)
Cyclemasters	... ...	5

The radio-telephone network operates on VHF. At the Information or Control Room, situated at Police Headquarters, are one 15-watt and one 50-watt VHF transmitter-receivers: the first set controls directly the W/T cars operating in the town of Port Louis and the second set acts as a link with four other 50-watt VHF repeater stations situated in various localities giving an island wide radio coverage. Twenty-three police stations are now equipped with static sets.

Apart from the newly opened post at Tombeau Bay, all police stations and Branches are linked by telephone. P.B.Xs are installed at the six Police District Headquarters to enable rapid inter-communication between stations in Districts.

Training

Recruitment for the Force is carried out by the Police Service Commission.

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The Training School, which is a residential institution, aims at training members of the Force on the same lines as in the United Kingdom and at fostering in them such qualities as tact, patience, tolerance, good humour, initiative, and ability to rely on their own judgment and resources. Recruit training includes adequate instruction in laws, police duties and procedure, general knowledge, first aid, elementary drill, riot drill, physical training, self defence, and swimming. The recruits undergo theoretical and practical training, including station and street duties. Lectures on medical jurisprudence, first aid and hygiene are delivered by the Police Medical Officer.

The Band

The Mauritius Police Band, which was first established in 1921, is a full military brass band made up of trained musicians. In 1947 a dance orchestra was formed which has since been in regular demand at balls and social gatherings and for stage productions. The Band had 230 engagements, of which 58 were official, and its total earnings amounted to Rs 29,121.50 which accrued to the Police Band Fund.

The Railway Police

An Inspector, a Sergeant and eight Constables are attached to the Railway Department as a special force to deal with offences committed on the Railway.

The Water Police

The Water Police are under the orders of the Superintendent of Police, Port Louis. The unit comprises one Sergeant and ten Constables. It is equipped with a new 15 h.p. motor launch and a wireless R/T set, which has replaced the former launch, damaged by cyclone *Carol* in February 1960. The Unit regularly patrols Port Louis Harbour area and maintains law and order and sees to the compliance with harbour regulations. Its duties include preventing persons from stowing away, assisting in the enforcement of immigration and quarantine laws, supervising the unloading of cattle, and preventing smuggling. During the year the Water Police attended 468 ships in harbour.

The Pay and Quartermaster's Branch

This Branch is divided into two Sections: the Pay Section and the Store Section, the latter under the special charge of the Assistant Pay and Quartermaster. The Pay Section is responsible for all the financial transactions and accounting of the Force and for the collection of inland revenue. The Store Section deals with indents for materials, the manufacture and issue of uniforms for all ranks, and the supply of stores and acoutrements to the Force.

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The Rodrigues Police

The Rodrigues Police, under the orders of an Asistant Superintendent, is responsible for maintenance of law and order in the dependency. The authorised establishment is one Officer and 32 other ranks. (Note: The island of Rodrigues is situated approximately 300 miles east of Mauritius).

Special Constabulary

In accordance with section 47 of the Police Ordinance (Cap. 312) special constables may be appointed at any time. A start was made in 1955 with the enrolment and training of 100 special constables on the lines of the Special Constabulary in Great Britain. In 1960 the approved strength was 30 officers and 200 other ranks.

First Aid: St. John Ambulance Association

Courses of instruction in First Aid are given to members of the Force, the Railway Department, the Government Fire Services, pupils of the Royal College and the Municipal Fire Brigade. All lectures are delivered by medical officers or qualified lay lecturers, with the assistance of instructors for practical demonstration in accordance with regulations of the St. John Ambulance Overseas. Examinations were held during the year and 667 members of the Police Force are now qualified and hold the St. John's First Aid Certificate.

A Mauritius Police Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade is registered at the Overseas Headquarters in the U.K. In addition, two other divisions comprising members of the Government Fire Services and pupils of the Royal College, a Division of the Municipal Fire Brigade have been formed.

The Home Nursing Division, which was registered and approved on the 1st April, 1952, has a strength of 16.

Games, Recreation and Welfare

As much time as possible is devoted to the playing of games and to recreation generally. The Force possesses good football, basket ball, volley ball and hockey teams. Inter-district and friendly matches with local teams are frequently played. Boxing and swimming are steadily progressing.

The Officers, Inspectorate, N.C.Os, Constables and Police Women, each have their own mess and recreation rooms, A well-stocked canteen is open to all ranks of the Force. The Police Band contributes to official and demi-official functions in the various messes and institutions of the Force.

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A library and reading room is open daily to members of the Force and to public subscribers. Books, reviews, and newspapers are regularly imported and are circulated throughout the Island and Rodrigues among members of the Force posted at out-stations in the country districts. The stock of English and French books in the library is 7,801.

A Police Federation of all ranks from Chief Inspector to Constable advises on matters concerning the welfare and efficiency of its members, other than matters of discipline and promotions affecting individuals.

Honours and Awards

The Colonial Police Long Sevice Medal was awarded to 26 members of the Force, the 1st clasp to 12 members and the 2nd clasp to nine members.

Offences

The number of offences reported to the Police in 1961 was as follows:—

Crimes	...	928
Misdemeanours	...	14,353
Contraventions ...	...	24,486
TOTAL	...	39,767

PRISONS

The principal duty of the Prisons Department is to maintain in safe custody the offenders delivered to its care. Subject to this, every possible effort is made to establish in them the will to lead an honest and useful life on release, and to fit them to do so, through trade and character training.

There are four institutions in Mauritius dealing with persons received from the Courts:—

(a) Central Prison, Beau Bassin, which includes two Sections for adult female prisoners and industrial school girls respectively.

(b) Richelieu Rehabilitation Centre.

(c) Borstal Institution, Grand River North West.

(d) Industrial School, Barkly, Beau Bassin.

Central Prison

Beau Bassin Prison consists of two three-storey blocks with a capacity to accommodate about 600 prisoners in separate cells, more of which were enlarged during the year.

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A Remand Block having 6 large communal and 6 separate cells with a capacity to accommodate 50 prisoners.

The other buildings consist mostly of Workshops where the following trades are taught: Carpentry and cabinet-making, Shoemaking, tailoring, tinsmithy, blacksmithy, basketry. Prisoners also carry out a concrete block making industry, the erection of new buildings. and the maintenance of existing ones.

The other important building is the Reception Centre, at which all male prisoners are received and discharged.

Female prisoners are admitted direct at the Female wing.

The Administrative headquarters was temporarily transferred during the year from inside the Central Prison to the Commissioner's old residence pending the erection of a new H.Q. scheduled for 1962.

Within the men's prison at Beau Bassin there are six yards where prisoners can associate for meals and leisure. The classification and segregation arrangements are as follows:—

(a) Star Class	...	No. 3 yard
(b) Trainable Ordinaries	...	No. 4 yard
(c) Short Term Ordinaries	...	No. 2 yard
(d) Long Term Ordinaries	...	No. 1 yard
(e) Young Prisoners	...	No. 5 yard
(f) Remands and Trials	...	No. 6 yard

The classes are kept segragated as far as possible while at work. There is also in operation a grade system whereby a prisoner may by good behaviour pass succeessively from Probationary to 3rd, 2nd, and 1st Grade, each grade having certain privileges such as extra books, longer time in association, participation in games and outdoor sports activities, working without direct supervision.

A Hobbies & Handicraft Scheme was launched during the year whereby prisoners and inmates of all reform institutions voluntarily spend their leisure hours on various forms of handicrafts or hobbies with the aim of encouraging their creative instinct and keeping their mind occupied usefully. Two thirds of net profits realised go to the prisoners to give them the incentive to volunteer for these activities in their spare time.

Young prisoners undergo Physical Training under a trained instructor every morning. Voluntary education classes are also held each evening under a qualified school Head Teacher attached to the department.

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A cinema show is given inside the prison twice a month, when films of topical and educatioal interest are shown. During week ends the foot-ball pitch outside the prison is used by prisoners. About 200 of them including those who attend as spectators enjoy this privilege each week. They have their own team which plays against civilian teams. Volley-ball and Basket-ball are also practised inside the prison walls after labour.

A number of public-spirited men and women continued to act as unofficial visitors to the Central and Female Prison. Each has a panel of prisoners whom he visits frequently.

The Female Prison was opened in May, 1951. It adjoins the main prison but has a separate entrance. Part of it was declared an Industrial School within the meaning of the ordinance, and the Industrial School girls hitherto detained at the Chemin Grenier R.C. Convent, were transferred thereto during the year.

The Female inmates, who are very few in number, are taught sewing and gardening. Other crafts are also taught by unofficial visitors.

Borstal Institution

The Borstal Institution which provides minimum security has accommodation for about 125 youths. It is run on the lines of a United Kingdom Borstal Institution.

The inmates are classified into " ordinary ", " probationary " and " special " grades; there is also a penal grade for boys under punishment. Apart from being classified according to statutory requirements, the inmates are grouped into four houses, named after prominent persons, viz., Remy Ollier, Labourdonnais, Newton and d'Epinay, with a view to fostering in them a spirit of competition. As far as possible the selection is made in such a way that the good element predominates in each house.

The lads receive daily instruction in carpentry, tinsmithing, tailoring, cooking and gardening. Compulsory educational classes run at elementary levels with emphasis on English, French and Arithmetic are held under a qualified teacher. Physical training classes are also held daily.

Educational films are shown and explained to the lads twice monthly and outdoor games are organised each evening. Lads of the special and probationary grades go to the seaside once a week to enjoy swimming. Football matches are played against outside teams.

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During the year outings were organised at week ends. The Annual Camp was held at Cap Malheureux during the month of July.

The lads put on their usual Christmas Show on the 30th of December with the help of the Amateur Dramatic Club and members of the staff. Apart from helping to make it an excellent show, the fact that public spirited people outside came and worked together with the lads, was of greatest encouragement.

A Borstal Visiting Committee meets monthly and, among other things, decides on questions of release.

Industrial School

The school has accommodation for about 200 boys and is run on the lines of an English Approved School. Boys up to the age of 18 years are catered for. The senior and junior boys are divided into houses named after prominent persons, but they are separately accommodated. A monthly " house " competition is run with points for conduct, cleanliness and upkeep of the house gardens.

All junior boys attend school daily for four hours under qualified teachers and receive primary school instruction up to the 5th standard. After the 5th Standard, boys who are still of school age attend an ordinary Government primary school. Senior boys who are illiterate attend school three evenings a week.

All boys do daily physical training under a qualified instructor and in addition take part in organised games. Films of educational value are shown and commented on by the Visual Education Officer and lectures on citizenship, forestry, electricity and animal husbandry have been given by experts who have offered their services to help the boys. Instruction in tinsmithing, brushmaking, shoemaking, carpentry, cooking and gardening is given to the boys in accordance with their aptitudes.

The Annual Camp was held at Cap Malheureux during the second half of July.

The lads put on their Christmas Show on the 21st of December.

Richelieu Rehabilitation Centre

The Rehabilitation Centre at Richelieu, designed for long and short term first offenders, was opened on the 1st of July 1958. More buildings were completed and brought into use. By the end of the year the population of the Centre had steadied itself at between 90 and 100, and response to treatment in the open was still more encouraging, and much better than ever hoped for.

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More land was brought under cultivation during the year. Another fish pond was laid, and pig, goat, and rabbit breeding are now well established. It is hoped to start cow-breeding soon.

The Centre is provided with a 12 H.P. 'Lister' Generating plant capable of supplying electricity to all buildings in case of interruption of the normal supply.

A fourth dormitory and a class room were completed during the year. All the dormitories are provided with Canvas beds and bed side tables with a W.C. in each domitory.

The Kitchen is provided with four Alfa Pressure Cookers, Concrete swills and tables, modern washand basins with taps and a provision store.

The dining room adjoins the kitchen and works on the "Cafeteria" system as in U.K.

Religious and educational facilities are afforded to the inmates. At Christmas they put up by themselves a variety show much enjoyed by the visitors.

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Chapter 10: Public Utilities and Public Works

Central Electricity Board

Electricity

As a result of the damage caused by the 1960 cyclones to the electricity system, the Central Electricity Board had to curtail its development programme and to restrict all development to industrial enterprises of importance to the general economy of the island. All available resources were applied to the provision of additional generating capacity and to the reconstruction and strengthening of existing transmission and distribution networks.

The Magenta Hydro Electric Power Station, incorporating the first remote controlled power station in Mauritius, was officially opened by His Excellency the Governor on the 29th March, 1961. Another new hydro-electric station—Eau Bleue—started production in April and by the end of the year had generated 4,843,400 units. Prolonged drought conditions throughout the first half of the year reduced the annual hydro production to only 30 per cent of total requirements.

The second stage of the St. Louis Station which comprises the addition of four more sets giving a total installed capacity of 16,000 KW was virtually completed at the end of the year. During the drought this station provided some 90 per cent of the island's requirments, a creditable but expensive achievement.

Work commenced on the reconstruction of the enlarged Cascade Cecile hydro-electric scheme, the original power station having been destroyed in the 1960 cyclones. Design and planning work also proceeded for a new thermal generating station at Fort Victoria. This station, designed to run on residual fuel oil, will have an initial installation of 12,000 KW with an ultimate capacity of 40,000 KW, and is expected to start generating in 1963.

Substantial reconstruction work was carried out on those transmission and distribution systems which were badly damaged by the 1960 cyclones. In addition, much of the distribution network has been strengthened, particularly in urban areas where the load has substantially increased in recent years. 31 miles of overhead line have been reconstructed, and 33 miles of new line erected.

Consumers increased by 3,526 or 7.6 per cent giving a total of 49,707. Sales of electricity rose by 16.8 per cent—a record increase—from 37.55 million units to 43,87 million. Units generated were the highest ever at 63.2 million.

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The total installed capacity of all plant and units generated during the year 1961 were as follows:—

	Kw		*Units*	
Hydro :—				
Eau Bleue	4,000		4,843,400	
Tamarind Falls	8,000		9,047,100	
Réduit	600		1,784,839	
Magenta	940		1,835,420	
Cascade Cécile*	—		—	
La Ferme	1,200		1,519,040	
Riche-en-Eau	1,700		693,390	
Bois Chéri	100		128,000	
		16,540		19,851,189
Thermal-C.E.B. :—				
St. Louis	10,300		33,063,490	
Sack Factory	550		374,690	
		10,850		33,438,180
Thermal-Sugar Estates :—				
St. Antoine	1,220		663,855	
F.U.E.L.	4,000		6,622,400	
Savannah	1,500		2,570,420	
Medine	1,500		5,120	
		8,220		9,861,795
TOTAL ...		35,610		63,151,164

WATER SUPPLIES

Domestic Water Supplies

The principal sources of Domestic Water Supplies are Mare-aux-Vacoas, Grand River North West, Piton du Milieu, La Nicolière and Rivière des Galets.

The Mare-aux-Vacoas Water Supply is derived from a storage reservoir whose capacity of 597 million cubic feet has been increased to 975 million cubic feet by raising of the dam. The reservoir is situated at an elevation of 1,850 feet above sea level and serves about half the population of the island in the districts of Plaines Wilhems, Moka, Black River, part of Port Louis, and the upper parts of Grand Port and Savanne. Prior to distribution the water is filtered through slow sand filters at an elevation of 1,640 feet above sea level and chlorinated, the supply to the higher parts of Plaines Wilhems and Grand Port—Savanne being pumped partly by hydraulic power and partly by electric power. The quantity supplied to domestic consumption for the year ending 30th June, 1961, averaged 9,800,000 gallons per day. This is less than the quantity consumed in 1959–60 owing to restrictions in the supply on account of the drought which prevailed in 1961.

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The Grand River North West water supply is derived from the river of that name at an elevation of about 250 feet above sea level. The supply amounts to 8,000,000 gallons per day. It is managed by the Municipality of Port Louis and serves exclusively the town of Port Louis with a population of about 90,000. The water is filtered and chlorinated before use. Works completed in 1961 provide for an increase of the supply to 13,000,000 gallons per day.

The Piton du Milieu Water Supply is derived from a storage reservoir of 110 million cubic feet, situated at an elevation of 1,435 feet above sea level and serves a population of about 150,000 inhabitants in the districts of Pamplemousses, Rivière du Rempart, Flacq, Moka and the lower parts of Grand Port—Savanne. The water is filtered through rapid sand filters at an elevation of 1,385 feet having a capacity of 4,000,000 gallons per day. The water is chlorinated after filtration.

The Piton du Milieu supply is supplemented in the districts of Pamplemousses and Rivière du Rempart by the La Nicolière Water Supply which provides 1,000,000 gallons per day derived from springs above La Nicolière at an elevation of 1,040 feet. The water is at present filtered through rapid sand filters and chlroniaated. The filters were put in operation at the end of 1961. In the district of Savanne the Piton du Milieu supply is supplemented by the Rivière des Galets water supply which is derived from the Rivière des Galets at an elevation of 825 feet and provides 400,000 gallons per day. The water is at present filtered and is to be chlorinated. The filters of the slow sand type were put in operation in 1961.

Irrigation

Irrigation is carried out in the Black River District from La Ferme reservoir and Magenta Canal Systems and in the Districts of Pamplemousses and Rivière du Rempart from La Nicolière reservoir.

La Ferme reservoir at an elevation of 450 feet above sea level, has a capacity of 417 million cubic feet and serves to irrigate at present 1,500 acres. Additional supplies are being derived from Mare-aux-Vacoas, Mare Longue and Tamarind Falls reservoirs by means of the Magenta Canal (completed in 1954) which irrigates a further 2,500 acres.

La Nicolière reservoir, at an elevation of 800 feet above sea level, has a capacity of 200 million cubic feet and serves to irrigate about 1,000 acres of land. The reservoir is linked to Midlands by the Midlands—La Nicolière Feeder Canal 17 miles long.

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Hydro-Electric Power

Water for hydro-electric purposes is supplied from three reservoirs:

(a) the Mare-aux-Vacoas reservoir mentioned above;

(b) the Mare Longue reservoir of a storage capacity of 200 million cubic feet at an elevation of 1,900 feet;

(c) the Tamarind Falls reservoir of a storage capacity of 72 million cubic feet at an elevation of 1,625 feet above sea level.

The three reservoirs are situated in the catchment area of the Tamarind river and supply water to a power station situated at 960 feet below the Taramind Falls reservoir. After going through this power station, water passes through the Magenta power station 150 feet lower down and thence into Magenta Canal for irrigation purposes in the Black River district.

Work on the hydro-electric project at Eau Bleue was started early in 1955 and completed in 1961. The scheme consists in an earth dam of approximately 8.65 million cubic feet providing a storage of 220 million cubic feet of water. The site of the reservoir is on River Eau Bleue near Midlands. A fall of 600 feet is available between the reservoir site and Le Val where the power station is situated. The Reservoir and Power Station have been put into operation in 1961.

The power station has an output capacity of about 5 million KWH per annum making use of the flow of River Eau Bleue alone. A Feeder Canal from Grand River South East to Eau Bleue Reservoir was completed in 1960 and the power output can further be increased to 13 million units by diverting other rivers into the reservoir. Electricty is also produced at La Ferme Power Station which utilises the inflow into La Ferme reservoir from the feeder channel over a fall of 400 feet.

Public Works

The former Public Works and Architectural Departments were integrated with the Ministry of Works under the control of the Minister of Works and Internal Communications. The Ministry is responsible for the maintenance and/or construction of (i) all Government works in connexion with water supplies, roads, bridges, cemeteries, quays and machinery at the Harbour and (ii) Government buildings. The management of all Crown lands and lands forming part of the *'domaine public'*, the valuation and the inspection of all lands pledged to the Government, the assessment of damage caused to cane fields and other preperties and the

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assessment of compensation for property acquired by the Government were considered to be extraneous to a Public Works Organization and their transfer to the Ministry of Housing, Lands and Town and Country Planning has been arranged.

The Ministry acts as Adviser to the other Ministries and Government Departments on matters connected with works.

The supply of materials from overseas was regular during the year.

Maintenance work was also carried out without any difficulty.

METEOROLOGY

The Meteorological Department provides for all climatological and weather services for the Colony and for international requirements. Six main reporting stations regularly provide full observations from each of the four scattered groups of islands forming the Dependencies and from the airfield and the central plateaux in Mauritius. These observations are broadcast seven times daily to Africa, Asia and Australia. About 4,000 weather reports are collected each year from ships at sea.

The administrative services of the Meteorological Department and the climatological and upper air sections are located at the headquarters at Vacoas. In addition a hurricane warning centre is operated there when a hurricane warning period is declared for either Mauritius or Rodrigues.

In March the main forecasting officer was transferred from Vacoas to Plaisance Airfield. The increase in both scheduled and non-scheduled air operations which took place during the year would have made it quite impossible to maintain services at international standard by operating the forecast office from Vacoas at a distance of 19 miles from the briefing room at the Airfield.

The forecasting office maintains a twenty-four hour forecast service. The daily weather maps drawn four times daily cover, as far as possible, the whole of the Indian Ocean and surrounding continents between 15°N and 50°S. Forecasts for long-distance flights to Africa, Asia and Australia and for ocean going vessels, as well as for local purposes, are now issued from the Plaisance office.

In addition to the main reporting stations the Department maintains, or co-operates with other local authorities in maintaining, three minor reporting stations at Port Louis Harbour, Flat Island, and Peros Banhos Island, 250 rainfall stations, twenty sunshine recorders and six local recording anemometers to obtain records mainly required for local purposes. Although numerous and

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varied enquiries from local and overseas authorities were dealt with, the main emphasis in climatology has continued to be laid upon the requirements of agriculture, hydrology and constructional engineering.

Mauritius is a Member of the World Meteorological Organisation and also plays its part in other international organizations, such as the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy and the International Civil Aviation Organization.

The Granary

The Granary, which was completed in 1933, is a two-storeyed building of ferro-concrete and brick and covers an area of 1½ acres. It adjoins a Lighter Quay, 389 feet long, served by six electrically-operated hoists which lift bagged grain from lighters at the quay to the top floor of the building, which is operated as a Customs transit shed. From the top floor grain is delivered by gravity chutes to the first and ground floors which are divided into twelve and six separate stores respectively. Other gravity chutes connect the first floor with the delivery yard at the rear of the building.

The Granary Ordinance (Cap. 64) prescribes that all grain (which includes rice, dholl, lentils, gram, peas and other cereal which may be declared grain for that purpose by Proclamation), shall be discharged from ships to lighters and conveyed to the Granary for storage. The Ordinance limits the amount of grain which may be stored elsewhere than at the Granary.

The building was designed and erected with the object of protecting grain against contamination and destruction by pests, particularly rodents, and all entrances, exits and personnel lifts are operated with this in view.

All grain is stored in the Granary in bags: there is no bulk storage. Pest infestation is prevented as far as possible by spraying insecticide by means of an apparatus provided for that purpose. Measures against white ants and termites are carried out by a local firm under contract and stores are regularly fumigated by the Health Department.

After allowing for passages necessary for the effective use of the disinfecting apparatus, storage capacity is sufficient for approximately 450,000 bags of grain.

The Granary Department, which is responsible for the administration and maintenance of the building, is under the control of the Granary Superintendent who is also the Comptroller of Customs. Handling and stacking of grain is carried out by contract labour. During the year 1960–61, 62,637 tons of rice and 5,160 tons of other grain were handled.

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Government Fire Services

The functions of the Fire Services are prescribed in section 4 of the Fire Services Ordinance (No. 56 of 1953) and consist in taking all available measures with a view to extinguishing fires and to protecting life and property in case of fires in any area except the District and Town of Port Louis, where the Municipal Council is the responsible authority.

The Department comprises an administrative office in Port Louis and six fire stations at Curepipe, Rose Hill, Quatre Bornes, Rivière des Anguilles, Mahebourg and Piton. On the 31st December, 1961, the staff was composed of 1 Controller (part time), 1 Office Supervisor, 1 Chief Officer, 1 Deputy Chief Officer, 2 Station Officers, 21 Sub-Officers, 24 Leading Firemen, 163 Firemen and a clerical staff of five.

The number of fire calls attended to was 277, compared with 301 in the previous year. The loss caused by fire, excluding Port Louis district, was estimated at Rs 411,829 compared with Rs 421,594 in 1960. Appliances on fire calls covered 7,595 vehicle miles.

Within the area covered by the Service there were at the end of the year 1,059 fire hydrants, including 37 new hydrants installed during the year.

The number of requests for the attendance of firemen during performances of stage plays was 107 and the attendance fees collected during the year amounted to Rs 1,948.

In accordance with Regulation 4(2) of the Inflammable Liquids and Substances Regulations (Government Notice No. 179 of 1953) 16 certificates were issued by the Controller of Fire Services to the effect that the premises on which filling stations would operate are adequately protected against fire.

Fire appliances in nearly all Government buildings and cinema halls were tested.

Thirty-seven requests for pumping on sugar estates and private premises were attended to and fees for these attendances amounted to Rs 1,341.46.

The average cost per man in the Service during the year was Rs 4,280 while the cost of the Service per head of population (excluding the inhabitants of Port Louis) was Rs 1.73. The total revenue collected in 1960–61 was Rs 55,933.

The mobile appliances with which the various fire stations were equipped included 8 fire engines, 5 large and 13 small trailer pumps, 6 water lorries, 1 water trailer, 2 cars, 1 lorry, 1 foam van, 6 hose carriers, 2 Land Rovers, 1 *Scooter* motor cycle and 1 bicycle.

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Chapter 11 : Communications

Shipping

Port Louis, the capital of the Island, is also the only port. Ten ocean-going and four small vessels can be accommodated at any one time.

Vessels are normally moored at buoys in the harbour, though two quays are available, one of 492 feet and able to take a vessel of 30 feet draft and one of 390 feet for vessels of drafts up to 17 feet. Both coal and oil bunkers are available in limited quantities; there is a good supply of fresh water.

Regular cargo services are provided from the United Kingdom by the British and Commonwealth Shipping Company Limited, and from Continental and French Mediterranean ports by the French companies *Messageries Maritimes* and *Nouvelle Compagnie Havraise Peninsulaire*. The Scinda Steamship Co. operates a cargo service from Bombay to Mauritius and West Africa.

The Dutch *Royal Interocean Line* vessels call at Port Louis regularly on the Far East, South Africa and South America service, thereby providing a regular passenger and cargo service to and from the Far East and South Africa. Passengers wishing to travel to the United Kingdom usually tranship from the Dutch vessels to the Union Castle Line at Durban.

A total of 480 vessels entered Port Louis harbour during the the year with a total net registered tonnage of 1,580,587 tons. Of these 480 vessels, 151, were of British registry, 73 French, 72 Dutch, 29 Norvegian, 9 Swedish, 11 United States, 2 Panamanian, 10 Liberian, 44 Japanese, 6 Indian, 9 German, 9 Danish, 17 Greek, 9 Israeli, 2 Ethiopian, 6 U.S.S.R., 3 Lebanese, 1 Belgian, 1 Argentina, 4 South African, 11 from the Republic of Madagascar and 1 from Monaco.

There are three small vessels on the local register. Two of them are employed on services to the dependencies of Mauritius and the third, M.V. "Mauritius", a 1,157 NRT cargo and passenger liner, is employed on runs to the dependencies, Madagascar, South and East Africa and Australia. These vessels have a combined net registered tonnage of 1709.

During the year, 3,870 passengers entered the Colony by sea and 4,894 left the Island.

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Civil Aviation

Mauritius is served by one international airport which is situated at Plaisance, in the South East of the Island, some five miles south west of Mahebourg. It is managed and operated by the Civil Aviation Department of the Mauritius Government. There are no other airfields and there are no locally registered operators.

Schedule air services are operated as follows:—

Air France three times weekly to Réunion, Madagascar, Nairobi and Paris.

Quantas weekly each way to Australia (Perth and Sydney) and South Africa.

South African Airways once forthnightly each way to Australia (Perth and Sydney) and South Africa (Johannesburg).

Railways

The public railway system of Mauritius (4′–8½ gauge) is operated by the Government. The railway network has 77¼ miles of line varying between sea level and an altitude of 1,800 feet. By law heavy goods (manufactured sugar, fertilizers, coal and gunny bags) must be transported by Government. The last of the regular passenger services was run on the 31st March, 1956.

The deficit on the working of the railways amounted to Rs 1,986,725 for the financial year, 1960–61.

Statistics for the financial year ended 30th June, 1961, are as follows:

Length of line open to traffic	Miles	77¼
Goods Traffic :		
Sugar	Tons	186,377
Sugar Canes	Tons	666
General Merchandise	Tons	48,804
Goods Traffic Receipts :		
Sugar	Rs	1,430,773
Sugar Cane	Rs	900
General Merchandise	Rs	246,336
Train Mileage	Train Miles	56,171
Receipts per Train Mile	Rs	34,83
Expenditure per Train Mile	Rs	72,58
Road Motor Service:		
Total Passenger Vehicle Miles	...Vehicle Miles	179,518
Passengers carried	Number	453,667
Passenger Receipts	Rs	115,200
Parcels carried	Number	387
Parcels receipts	Rs	116
Goods Traffic:		
Sugar	Tons	17,851
General Merchandise	Tons	13,993
Goods Receipts :		
Sugar	Rs	113,150
General Merchandise	Rs	76,931
Number of road vehicles in service:		
10 lorries and 8 trailers		
3 buses		

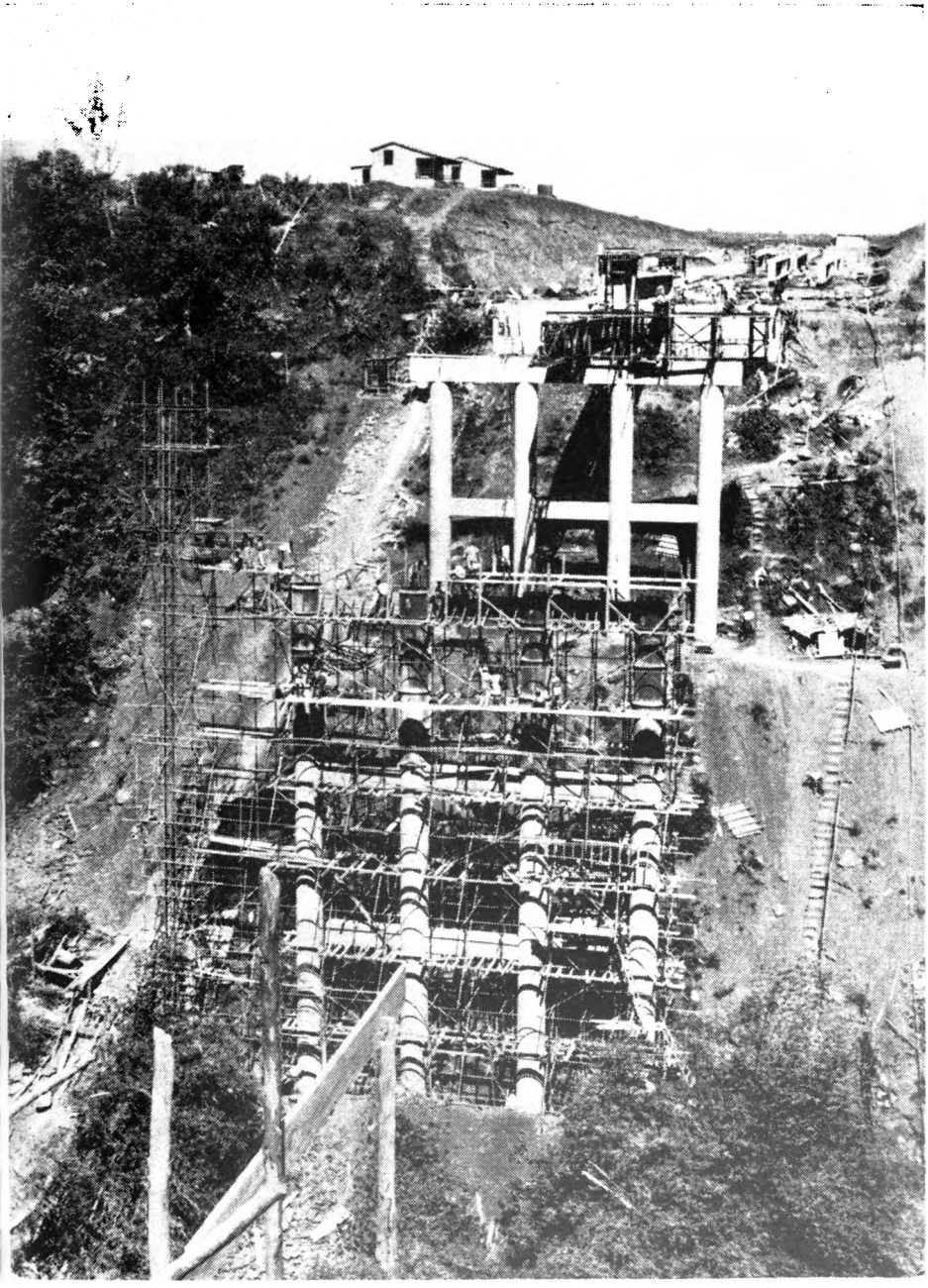
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A VIEW OF A PART OF THE NEW DOUBLE CARRIAGE TRUNK ROAD BETWEEN BELL VILLAGE AND PHŒNIX

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NEW TRUNK ROAD CONSTRUCTION. THE BRIDGE AT MOUNT ORY UNDER CONSTRUCTION

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ROADS

Mauritius is provided with an extensive road system, consisting of some 807 miles of public main and branch roads, most of which are suitable for motor traffic. All the roads are metalled and about 500 miles are tarred. Practically all the main roads are open to heavy motor vehicles, but owing to the rapid development of road traffic during the past twenty years many of the roads are too narrow for moderately fast transport to operate in safety. There are also some blind corners and very populous villages to travel through, while the roads are further congested by slow—moving goods transport and by buses.

Many of the existing roads are of too light a construction for the volume and weight of traffic which they now carry. Maintenance problems are accordingly increasing.

Improvements were carried out to some of the existing tarred surfaces. An additional 19 miles of road was asphalted.

The Ministry of Works and Internal Communications is responsible for the maintenance of proclaimed roads and District Councils for the maintenance of unproclaimed roads.

ROAD TRANSPORT

There were 15,669 motor vehicles registered in the Island in 1961 as compared with 14,466 in 1960 classified as:

	Private Ownership	*Government Ownership*
Private Cars	8,273	51
Taxi Cars	1,270	—
Lorries	2,390	170
Buses	576	19
Cycles	1,236	62
Tractors and Dumpers ...	267	103
Jeeps	113	64
Vans	940	74
3-Wheelers	24	—
Road Rollers	16	11
Foam Tenders	—	3
Cranes	—	7
	15,105	564

The public bus fleets had increased to a total of 466 vehicles in use at the end of 1961. An average of 129,000 passengers travelled daily by bus.

There were 3,021 goods vehicles in use in 1961—an increase of 217 over the preceding year's figure. They are used mainly in connexion with sugar industry for conveying cane to the factories and other materials to sugar estates.

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VEHICLE LICENSING

The quarterly licence duties payable in respect of motor vehicles are as follows:

	Rs c
1. Motor cycles (with or without sidecar) :—	
(a) not exceeding five horse power	7 50
(b) exceeding five horse power, for each unit or part of a unit of horse power	1 50
2. Private Cars :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	30 00
(b) exceeding ten horse power ... ... together with an additional amount of Rs 3.50 for each unit or fraction of a unit of a horse power in excess of ten.	35 00
3. Taxis :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	27 00
(b) for every additional horse power or fraction thereof	2 00
4. Buses having a seating capacity for more than twenty passengers :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	153 00
(b) for every additional horse power or fraction thereof	2 00
Buses having a seating capacity for not more than twenty passengers :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	128 00
(b) for every additional horse power or fraction thereof	2 00
Buses having a seating capacity for not more than sixteen passengers :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	78 00
(b) for every additional horse power or fraction thereof	2 00
Buses having a seating capacity for not more than eleven passengers :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	48 00
(b) for every additional horse power or fraction thereof	2 00
Buses having a seating capacity for not more than seven pssengers :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	38 00
(b) for every additional horse power or fraction thereof	2 00
5. Private Carrier's (other than tractors and trailers) :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	75 00
(b) exceeding ten horse power ... ... together with an additional fee of Rs 3.50 for each unit or fraction of unit of horse power in excess of ten.	87 50
(c) per metric ton of maximum gross weight or fraction thereof :—	
(i) where the horse power of the vehicle does not exceed ten horse power ...	15 00
(ii) where the horse power of the vehicle exceeds ten horse power	17 50

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VEHICLE LICENSING—*Contiuued*

	Rs	c
6. Public Carriers :—		
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	112	50
(b) exceeding ten horse power ... ... together with an additional fee of Rs 3 50 for each unit or fraction of a unit of horse power in excess of ten.	131	25
(c) per metric ton of maximum gross weight or fraction thereof :—		
(i) where the horse power of the vehicle does not exceed ten horse power ...	15	00
(ii) where the horse power of the vehicle exceeds ten horse power	17	50

Payment of licence duty in respect of motor vehicles may be effected quarterly or yearly at the owner's option.

No licence fee is charged on a private car or motor cycle for a short stay in the Colony not exceeding one week.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

The Posts and Telegraphs Department is responsible for the postal and telegraph services of the Colony and operates the Post Office Savings Bank. It also acts as an agent for a number of Government departments in so far as the collection of certain revenue and the making of certain payments are concerned. The Money Order Service is available for nearly all parts of the world, and the British Postal Order Service for most Commonwealth countries.

The main Post Office is in Port Louis. There are besides 32 post offices and 43 postal agencies spread throughout the island and all class of postal and telegraph business are transacted. Postal facilities are also available in Rodrigues.

Air mail connection with all parts of the world is maintained by means of the services operated by *Air France, Qantas Empire Airways* and *South African Airways*.

Air mail postage rates are charged on weight units of 5 grammes. The air mail postage rate to Europe and to India and Pakistan, the principal destinations of the Colony's outward correspondence, is 60 cents for 5 grammes. The Aerogramme or Air Letter Service operates to all destinations at the uniform rate of 35 cents.

The number of postal items handled during 1960 was approximately as follows:

Air mail	3,683,000
Overseas surface mail	1,001,700
Inland mail	7,772,300

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Mauitius is linked to the rest of the world by cables and by radio installations (including radiotelephones with most parts of the world) which are operated and maintained by Cable and Wireless Limited. The Company has an office, a cable station and a radio station in Port Louis, and a cable station and a radio installation in Rodrigues. The major part of the overseas telegraph traffic concerns Port Louis and outward and inward telegrams from or for the Capital are accepted, for transmission or delivery, direct by Cable and Wireless Limited. Elsewhere, overseas telegrams are received at post offices and transmitted over land lines operated by the Posts and Telegraphs Department to the General Post Office in Port Louis, for outward transmission by Cable and Wireless; inward telegrams received by Cable and Wireless Limited are similarly transmitted by the General Post Office over the land lines to post offices for delivery.

There are 210 miles of inland telegraph lines and the number of inland telegrams handled during 1961 was 10,200 as compared with 8,510 during 1960.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The Island is served by 16 telephone exchanges located at the following centes:

Manual Exchanges : Port Louis, Curepipe, Rose Hill and Vacoas.

Automatic Exchanges: Moka, Rose Belle, Mahebourg, Centre de Flacq,, Souillac Pointe aux Sables, Rivière des Anguilles, Mapou, Pamplemousses, Quartier Militaire, Long Mountain and Nouvelle France.

At the close of the year there were 6,917 exchange lines and 9,481 telephone stations connected to the public network. The number of effective telephone calls handled during 1961 amounted to 7,034,160 compared with 5,754,012 during 1960. The latter figure was of course abnormally low as a result of the disruptions caused by cyclones *Alix* and *Carol;* the 1961 figure actually falls short of that for 1959, during which a total of 7,220,391 effective calls were dealt with.

Reconstruction of overhead telephone plant continued throughout the year and the first phase of a major underground cable development scheme was started in November. With the scheme it is planned to divert as many lines as possible into underground cables and so reduce the havoc caused to the telephone sevrice by cyclonic storms.

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Installations of two main automatic exchanges began at Port Louis and Rose Hill and by the end of the year the work was well advanced. The rural automatic exchange at Rivière des Anguilles has been replaced by one of a larger type, the old one being transferred to L'Escalier. A new rural automatic exchange has been opened at Mapou.

The staff at the Government radiotelegraph station at Vacoas was augmented during the year to cater for an increase in meteorological radiotelegraph traffic. The station maintains a 24-hour watch on the international maritime distress frequency and provides communication for ships within a radius of 800 miles of Mauritius. It provides communication with meteorological stations on the Dependencies as well as intercepting meteorological broadcasts from countries bordering the Indian Ocean. During 1961 the station handled 7,846 radiotelegrams compared with 7,689 during 1960: in addition 21,138 meteorological messages were dealt with.

The end of the year was marked by the passage of cyclone *Beryl* during the Christmas Holidays which caused a certain amount of damage to outside plant. Although no major breakdowns comparable with 1960 occurred, large numbers of individual broken wires and excessive humidity resulted in more than 60 per cent of the telephones being out of order on the 26th December. Three quarters of the faulty lines had been restored by the end of the year.

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Chapter 12: The Press and Information Services

The Press

The history of the Press in Mauritius has been traced as far back as 1773. "Cernéen", one of the existing daily newspapers has had an uninterrupted existence of more than 127 years and "Le Mauricien", another daily, has been published regularly for the past 52 years. The languages in which the newspapers are published are French, English, Hindi, Urdu, Tamil and Chinese.

The following is a list of newspapers published in Mauritius:—

Daily

Le Cernéen
Le Mauricien
Advance
Action
China Times
Chinese Daily News
Central Daily News
New Chinese Commercial Paper
Chinese National Paper

Weekly

La Vie Catholique
Aryoday
J.O. et Tribune Ouvrière
L'Epée
Mauritius Times
Carrefour
Les Nouvelles
The Sunday Post
Renaissance

Twice Weekly

Janata

Fortnightly

Zamana
Le Progrès Islamique
La Voix de L'Islam
The Lark
Nav Jeewan

Monthly

Trait d'Union
The Lantern
Le Message
The Minaret

Information Services

The functions of the Central Information Office are:—

(a) to establish and maintain relations of confidence and mutual understanding with all sections of the press;

(b) to ensure a flow of accurate information from the Government to the public;

(c) to impress upon the public the following themes:—

(i) the facts of the situation in which Mauritius finds itself (as summarised in the Report: A time for Decision) and the consequences which will flow if it is not remedied;

(ii) the strategy and plans of the Government in dealing with the situation;

(iii) the need to abolish economic waste;

(iv) the need for increased food production.

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533 press notices, as compared with 576 in 1960 were paid for by this office. In addition 512 communiqués were published free of charge by the local press, as against 615 in 1960.

131 Press Cuttings were issued to the relevant ministries and departments of the island in 1961.

The broadcast feature entitled "Monday Night Topic" prepared in French and Hindi by the office was on the air throughout the year. As in previous years, this programme provided listeners with comments on topical news embracing a wide range of subjects most of them chosen fo their topicality, and for their social, economic and educational value.

Apart from the feature mentioned above the office provided the Mauritius Boadcasting Service daily with local news of public interest, communiqués from the various ministries and departments and, whenever any public utility campaign organized by the office warranted it, with slogans.

About 250 visits were made by Senior Officers to rural areas and a close contact continued to be maintained with the office bearers of Village Councils, Social Welfare Centres, Baitkas and Madrassas. The senior officers also delivered talks to Village Council and Social Welfare Centre audiences on the activities of Government in the different spheres of the island's social, educational and economic life. The aims and purposes of legislation introduced by Government in the course of the year were also the subject of many discussions and talks.

The Mobile Cinema Units gave in all 824 shows during the year to an estimated audience of 576,800 i.e. an average of 700 people at every show. Besides commenting on films, the commentators, attached to these Units, addressed the audience on various aspects of the Government programme and on current campaigns undertaken by the office.

Abridged versions of the Titmus and Meade reports were published by this office in English, French, Hindi and Urdu. In all 95,000 booklets were printed. Also published this year were 5,000 copies in French and 3,000 in Hindi of a brochure entitled "Guide de Culture Potagère" which were distributed to small planters and vegetable growers, to Village Councils and Social Welfare Centres.

47 Editions of the Office's bilingual (English/French) weekly bulletin were published during the year. This 12 page roneoed publication has a circulation of just over 2,000. A Hindi version of this bulletin is also published.

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As a result of the severe drought which prevailed at the beginning of the year and at the request of the Ministry of Works and Internal Communications, the office started another campaign in January against the wastage of water. The campaign was carried out throughout February and March and all the publicity media available were hardnessed to the task.

Another registration campaign was started in 1961 in view of supporting the Government Housing Scheme.

For this campaign too, as well as for the " Produce Your Own Food " campaign which was carried over into 1961, all the publicity resources of the office were made use of.

A prize-giving day for the winners of the " Food and Pupulation " essay competition initiated last year by the office was held on the 8th June. Two gold medals were awarded, as the best entrants for French and Hindi had tied for first place. Book prizes were also given to fourteen other competitors whose work had been highly commended by the jury.

As part of its routine work the office prepared, during the year, a weekly summary of leading press articles and other important items of news for the Colonial Office and a monthly News Bulletin destined for Mauritian students in the U.K.

Twelve Press Conferences were convened by the office to enable Ministers or distinguished visitors from abroad to meet representative journalists and to give the public, through the Press, an account of some of the most important aspects ot their work or the purpose of their visit to Mauritius.

1,415 sets of photographs, half-plate and post-cards size (including " re-make ") prints, as compared with 613 sets for the previous year, were made by the part-time photographer of the office. 131 unmounted stereos supplied to the office by the Central Office of Information, London, were issued to the Press as well as 20 blocks made locally.

The total number of documentary films available in the film library as at 31st December was 322 as compared with 319 the previous year. The office received from the Central Office of Information, London, nineteen 16mm, and nineteen 35mm. British News film. These were used by the Mobile Cinema Units and the public cinema companies respectively. Besides these, the Central Office of Information, London, sent twelve 16mm. and the United States Information Services (U.S.I.S.) in Nairobi one 16mm. documentary films. The total number of documentary films re-

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ceived during the year amounted to 40 and that of British News films to 53. The number of films loaned to the public during the year was 1,591.

The Director, Central Information Office, took over this year from the Commissioner of Police, the duties of Chairman of the Board of Film Censors. The number of films and stage plays censored during the year amounted to 537 and 16 respectively.

At the request of the Editors of the Europa Year Book, the Year Book and Guide to East Africa and the Newspaper Press Directory, the office revised all statistical and other data relating to Mauritius which appear in these publications.

BROADCASTING

Before the Second World War broadcasting in Mauritius was run by a private commercial concern. During the war there were three stations in the Island, all partially or wholly controlled by the Government. In 1944 the Government decided to assume sole responsibility for broadcasting in the Colony and set up its own organisation, "The Mauritius Broadcasting Service", which broadcasts material of a non-commercial nature.

Since 1944 the number of radio licences has increased from 2,746 to 44,633 of which 5,001 were in respect of new radio sets licensed in 1961.

In 1960–61 the recurrent expenditure of the Mauritius Broadcasting Service amounted to Rs 520,803 as compared with a total revenue of 538,947 derived from wireless licences.

In the 1960–65 Capital Expenditure Programme for the Island, the Broadcasting Service was allotted Rs 1,225,000 of which Rs 116,621 had been spent at the end of June 1961.

The two 10 kW transmitters of the Mauritius Broadcasting Service operate on 439.2 and 31 metres. A 250w transmitter operating on 220 metres is available in emergencies.

The old Broadcasting House at Forest Side was rendered unusable by Cyclone Carol and all broadcasting activities are now concentrated at the Transmitter Station at Malherbes, Curepipe.

The Mauritius Broadcasting Service has responsibility for the maintenance of the radio services belonging to the Telecommunications, Meteorological and Harbour Departments.

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The Mauritius Broadcasting Service goes on the air for an average of 65¾ hours a week in four daily transmissions in the course of which English, French, Hindustani and two Chinese dialects are spoken. It also broadcasts token programmes in Hindi Urdu, Tamil, Telegu, Gujrati and Marathi.

Owing to lack of local professional artists, the programmes are mainly made up of recorded music and of transcription recordings from the British Broadcasting Corporation and the " Radiodiffusion-Télévision Française ". The output of live programmes has greatly increased in quality and quantity in the course of the last three years. Six news bulletins—two in English, three in French and one in Hindustani—covering a total of one hour and ten minutes are broadcast daily.

The Education Department broadcasts weekly during term time 2 programmes of 30 minutes duration each.

The Globe Reuter News Service is monitored by the Mauritius Broadcasting Service which distributes daily approximately 250 duplicated copies of world news to the local press, Government Departments, members of the Legislative Council and the Admiralty.

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Chapter 13: Local Forces

The Special (Mobile) Force

When the Mauritius Garrison was withdrawn on the 30th June, 1960, after 150 years in the Island, the Government established a Special (Mobile) Force at the former barracks at Vacoas to replace the military for purposes of internal security.

The total authorised establishment of the Force is 6 Officers and 246 other ranks. At the end of the year its actual strength was 5 Officers and 237 other ranks. The two senior officers are styled Commandant and Deputy Commandant respectively.

The force is equipped with 4 lorries and 8 Land Rovers.

The Special (Mobile) Force was on parade on the occasion of the opening of Legislative Council, Her Majesty's Birthday, and Commemoration Sunday.

Mauritius Naval Volunteer Force

The Mauritius Naval Volunteer Force completed its twelth year of service on 30th September, 1961.

On 1st January, 1961, the Force was re-organised on a more effective basis than previously, and the results have proved most satisfactory.

On 31st December, 1961, the Force consisted of the Commanding Officer, two Sub-Lieutenant Instructors, eleven ratings as Permanent Staff and eighty Volunteer Ratings.

Volunteer ratings attend drills twice weekly in addition to compulsory and voluntary training at sea in M.F.V. 189 during evening drill periods and week-ends. Attendance at both drills and sea-training during the year has been most satisfactory.

In addition to drills and sea training, all members of the Force are compelled to attend an Annual training camp for 14 days each year, during which they receive pay and allowances according to individual rank and rating. This year the Camp was held at Cap Malheureux under canvas, emphasis being placed on physical fitness. In addition to normal recreational sports, boat-pulling, sailing, swimming and rifle shooting were practised. Out of a total strength of 4 officers and 91 ratings, 3 officers and 88 ratings attended camp.

The Force provided a Guard of Honour of 1 officer and 39 ratings for the Queen's Birthday Parade at Line Barracks, Port Louis on 10th June and for the Remembrance Sunday Parade at Curepipe on 12th November.

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Chapter 14: General

The Mauritius Institute

The Mauritius Institute traces its origin back to the year 1880 when an Ordinance was passed "to establish and incorporate a Public Institute, to be called the Mauritius Institute, a Public Museum and a Public Library, for the purpose of promoting the general study and cultivation of the various branches and departments of Arts, Science, Literature and Philosophy, and for the instruction and recreation of the people".

The foundation stone of the present building was laid on the 23rd November, 1880, by Sir George Bowen, then Governor. The building was completed in 1884 and in the course of the following year the Natural History Museum, known as the "Desjardins Museum", until then housed in a wing of the Royal College in Port Louis, was transferred to the new building. The public library was opened in 1903, following the munificent bequest of the Sir Virgile Naz Library which forms the nucleus of the present collection. The Institute has expanded its activities over the years and to-day it comprises a Public Library, a Natural History Museum, an Historical Museum, and a small Art Gallery.

The Institute is managed by a Board of Directors consisting of ten members apppointed annually by the Governor and of such persons as may be recommended by any literary or scientific society associated with the Institute. The staff consists of a Director, a Librarian, a Curator, and eight other officers.

The Public Library

The Mauritius Institute Public Library was created in 1902 from a nucleus of some 9,000 volumes which had been bequeathed to the Colony by Sir Virgile Naz, K.C.M.G. (1825–1901). By subsequent purchases and gifts the stock of books now consists of 37,774 volumes. Legislation provides for the compulsory deposit in the library of one copy of all books, pamphlets and separates, published locally and this right of legal deposit, which exists since the foundation of the library, is an implicit recognition of its status as the National Library of the island.

In addition to the Virgile Naz section which, in accordance with the will of the donor, is kept separately, the library comprises the following sections: art, science, technology, biography, fiction, etc. There is also a "Quick Reference" section consisting of encyclopaedias, dictionaries, directories. A collection of bound periodicals covering a wide range of subjects is also available. A special book-case is devoted to Oriental languages.

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THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM IN PORT LOUIS IS PART OF THE MAURITIUS INSTITUTE BUILDING ERECTED IN 1884

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An important feature of the library is the special collection of works, periodicals and manuscripts in many fields of study relative to Mauritius and the other Mascarene Islands. The collection is as far as possible extended to publications on Madagascar and at the end of the year was composed of 3,451 volumes. No books were issued on loan during four months (April to July) when a general stock-taking of the library took place. During the last decade, the scope of this local section has been enlarged to include, geographically, works on the Indian Ocean and, topically, monographs and reference works bearing on those themes in the development of which Mauritius had a part to play. Microfilms of rare works and of certain documents in overseas institutions have also been acquired. The bibliographical section has been enlarged and together with the existing card-catalogue provides facilities to the many research workers and students who make use of the library. These fall in several categories: overseas workers at universities or research institutions who maintain a regular correspondence with the Institute, visitors carrying on field work for shorter or longer periods in the island, visiting experts or technicians on Government missions, members of local institutions, societies and Government departments requiring information on a wide range of subjects.

The existence of a valuable section on natural history and biology should also be mentioned. It consists mainly of an important collection of works (about 6,000 volumes) many of which are now very scarce. Most of these books belong to the Royal Society of Arts and Sciences of Mauritius which is incorporated with the Mauritius Institute.

The library is arranged according to the Dewey Decimal Classification and the Browne system of book issue has been recently introduced.

Access to the Public Library is free, but a deposit of Rs 10 (15shs.) is required from readers wishing to borrow books. Some sections are however reserved and loans are made in special circumstances only. The number of registered borrowers has increased from about 200 in 1945 to 1,998 in 1961. The number of readers using the library facilities during the year was 36,366 and the book circulation for the same perod was 21,499.

The Natural History Museum

The Natural History Museum is mainly regional in character and contains representative collections of the fauna, flora and geology of Mauritius and of the neighbouring islands. The Museum was visited by 82,291 persons during the year.

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The bird section contains specimens of most of the one hundred species of the birds of Mauritius. They have been grouped as shore birds, marsh birds, sea birds, game birds and land birds. The endemic species of which nine are still found out of a total of twenty-four, are displayed separately. The extinct species are shown by means of feathered restorations and paintings, and in some cases by actual skeletons. The Dodo is exhibited together with its relatives which inhabited the neighbouring islands of Reunion and Rodrigues. The species which was found in Reunion was known as the " White Dodo"; it is known only from historical evidence and by a 17th century painting, a reproduction of which is exhibited in the Museum. The Rodrigues *Solitaire* is exemplified by a genuine skeleton and by a water-colour reproduction of the feathered bird. The Museum also possesses the only known skeleton of the Mauritius flightless Red Hen *(Aphanapteryx bonasia)* and one of the three stuffed examples of the Mauritius Dutch Pigeon *(Alectroenas nitidissima)*, a species which became extinct about one hundred years ago.

In the mammal section are found examples of the very few species occurring in the Island which, with the exception of bats, have all been introduced by man at various times. These include the Javanese Deer imported by the Dutch, a Borneo Macaque released in the Island by the Portuguese, the Wild Pig and the Indian Hare.

In the reptile section are exhibited examples of the giant species of tortoises, extinct or still living, peculiar to the Indian Ocean islands, and of various kinds of turtles found in the region. The geckos, lizards and snakes of the Island are exhibited, including the very curious Round Island snakes, two species of which are found and are considered to be " living fossils ".

The fish section displays examples of the numerous species found in the territorial waters of the Island, all of them stuffed and painted in their natural colours. Fresh-water fishes, comprising about twenty-five species, some indigenous, others introduced, are also exhibited.

A large number of Echinoderms (sea-stars and urchins) live in the region and examples of nearly all the species, including a few almost unique ones, are represented in the Museum.

The Mollusca section has a rich collection and the Island is reputed for its extremely large variety of sea-shells, though most of these occur as well in all the Indo-Pacific region. The land shell fauna, comprising about two hundred species, is less spectacular but is scientifically more important, as many groups are peculiar to the Island. The fresh-water mollusca are insignificant, except from

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a medical point of view, one species being known to transmit Bilharzia disease.

The Museum also possesses local collections of crustaceans, insects, corals and plants.

Biological Research

The very interesting remnants of the indigenous land fauna and flora, together with the rich marine life of the surrounding seas present excellent opportunities for biological research. Scientific collections of all groups are made and these are studied overseas and locally by experts, the results being published in the Mauritius Institute Bulletin and in specialized publications abroad.

Art Gallery

A small art gallery is attached to the Port Louis Museum, consisting mainly of a collection of paintings presented to the Institute in 1921 by the late Mr. Edgar de Rochecouste. This collection includes a certain number of paintings of artists such as Ziem, Le Sidaner, Harpignies, and Jacques-Emile Blanche. A small section is devoted to the works of local artists.

The Historical Museum

A subsidiary museum devoted to local history has been opened in an old French house at Mahébourg recently acquired by Government. It was in this house that Monsieur de Robillard, the French Commandant of Grand Port, received the two wounded commanders of the English and French squadrons, Admirals Willoughby and Duperré, during the well-known naval battle of August, 1810. Several objects connected with this episode and recovered one hundred and twenty-four years later from the wreck of the *Magicienne,* one of the English frigates sunk in Grand Port bay during the engagement, are exhibited. These objects include a portion of the ship's hulk, several heavy guns and carronades, cannon balls, grape-shot, copper coins, pieces of sailor's uniform and various other relics.

The capture of the Island by the British at the beginning of December, 1810, is illustrated by a series of coloured prints drawn on the spot by Temple.

A section of the museum is devoted to the display of a valuable collection of maps, charts, engravings and watercolours (many in original) which serve to introduce the visitor to the various periods of the history of Mauritius from its discovery to the present time. Worthy of special mention in this section are a portulan map published at Amsterdam in 1595 (probably the most accurate map of the region available at the time of the first Dutch visit to Mauritius in 1590), an English map of Mauritius by Mount and Page

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published in 1745 and derived from a Dutch source, Abbé de la Caille's map (1753) which is the first accurate map of the Island, Bellin's map of 1763, and two maps by Lislet Geoffroy, published by the British Admiralty in 1813 and 1814. Modern maps are also shown, including the fine one-inch map by Descubes (1880) which is of great practical interest as it indicates the site of over a thousand concessions.

Among the series of lithographs and water-colours recording the life, scenery and customs of different periods, may be noted six water-colours by Kelsey (early 1840's), coloured prints by Thuillier, coloured lithographs by Bradshaw and Rider (1831–32), water-colours by Leroy (1860's), and a water-colour panoramic view of Mauritius, sketched from Port Louis harbour by Augustus Earle who was on board the *Beagle* when Charles Darwin visited Mauritius in 1836.

A few pieces of local furniture belonging to the French Governor Mahé de Labourdonnais (1699–1753) and exhibits from the East Indiaman *Kent* which was captured by Robert Surcouf, *Roi des Corsaires,* in the Bay of Bengal in October, 1800, are on view.

Relics connected with the activities of the French privateers in the Indian Ocean at the beginning of the 19th century are also displayed.

Part of a room of the Museum is devoted to the history of transport in Mauritius exemplified by two *palanquins* and a *chaise à porteurs* which were in use before the era of roads and wheeled traffic.

A small exhibit is devoted to the history of the famous " Post Office " stamp of Mauritius (1847) and is illustrated by reprints of the stamp.

Among miscellaneous items of interest may be cited: objects rescued from some memorable shipwrecks in the region, the portraits or busts of certain French and British Governors (Mahé de Labourdonnais, Charles Decaen, Robert Farquhar, Lowry Cole, John Pope Hennessy), and the Roll of Honour of the Mauritian soldiers who lost their lives in the Second World War.

During the year the Historical Museum was visited by 17,369 persons, including 7,539 schoolchilden.

Learned Societies

The following scientific and literary societies are associated with the Mauritius Institute:—

(1) *The Royal Society of Arts and Sciences of Mauritius* was founded in 1829 under the name of *Société d'Histoire Naturelle* and

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was honoured in 1847 by the permission of Queen Victoria to add the word " Royal " to its name. Its activities extend to most branches of natural history. Lectures on science and art are delivered by its members from time to time and also by visiting professors, artists and scientists. Proceedings of the Society, containing papers read before the Society, are published annually. The Society owns a library which contains many rare and valuable books and periodicals on natural history.

(2) *The Société de Technologie Agricole et Sucrière de Maurice* is a technical body founded in 1910 and devoted to the study of questions relating to agriculture and to sugar technology. The papers and proceedings of the Society are published in the bi-monthly *Revue Agricole.*

(3) *The Société des Ecrivains Mauriciens* was founded in 1938 with the object of encouraging the publication of literary works, and of establishing contacts with literary institutions overseas.

(4) *The Indian Cultural Association* was founded in 1936 with the object of promoting Indian culture in Mauritius and of fostering spiritual ties with India. It publishes a quarterly journal called " The Indian Cultural Review ".

(5) *The Société de l'Histoire de l'Ile Maurice* was founded in 1938 to foster and encourage the study of the Colony's history by the collection of documents on local history, publication of historical works, and the organisation of historical exhibitions and lectures.

One of the principal activities of the Society has been the production of the Dictionary of Mauritian Biography, twenty-five parts of which have already appeared. These contain about one thousand biographies of persons connected with Mauritius by birth or residence.

The Society awards prizes to schoolchildren to encourage the study of Mauritian history. It keeps in touch and exchanges publications with overseas institutions of like interests.

The Mauritius Archives

The Mauritius Archives Office is not only one of the oldest departments of the Colony, dating from the early years of the French settlement, but it is also one of the oldest archive centres of the Southern Hemisphere, ranking only after the Cape and Réunion repositories.

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Under French rule the Office was a branch of the *Conseil Supérieur* and received special attention from the authorities. An early instance of the interest of the French Government in colonial archives is provided by the edict of 1770, which set up a central *Dépôt des Chartes des Colonies* at Versailles and enacted regulations for their better preservation. Another important measure was the establishment in Mauritius in 1808 of a *Dépôt des Cartes de la Marine* which for a long time supplied sailors and travellers in the South Indian Ocean with valuable information.

At the time of the land fighting which led to the surrender of the Island by the French, the local archives were removed from Port Louis to a safer place of custody in Plaines Wilhems and thus escaped damage. In 1815, after the final cession of Mauritius to Great Britain, they were handed over to the British authorities in an almost complete state, as comparatively few of the records were retained by the French Government.

Until 1949 the Archives were attached to the Registrar General's Department, and from January, 1950, to the Central Administration. By the Archives Ordinance (No. 71 of 1952) they were transferred to an Archives Department which is the central repository of all public archives.

The Archives Office is now divided into the following sections:

(i) the Repository, which comprises *inter alia* the records of the old French Administration (1721–1810), records of the British Administration (from 1810), notarial records, and private records;

(ii) the Library, which, besides being the official registry of all publications issued in Mauritius, contains Mauritiana printed abroad, reference books on general history, colonial history and archivology with a section devoted to collections of stamps, seals, currency notes and other materials;

(iii) the Land Registry, which comprises the records of the former Land Court, memoranda of survey deposited by sworn land surveyors, with a section containing maps, charts and plans.

The Department is also equipped with a photostat and a duostat for the photocopying of records and the supply of copies to Government departments and to the public.

The control and disposal of records is supervised by the Public Archives Records Committee. The Chief Archivist also inspects regularly archives lying in repositories other than the Archives Department.

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Publications include the annual report, the quarterly *memoranda* of books and periodicals issued in Mauritius and registered in the Archives, and the publications issued by the Archives Publication Fund Committee (established in 1951).

The bibliographical survey of Mauritiana started in 1951 was completed in February, 1955. The book, including about 1,000 pages and comprising altogether 8,865 entries, was published in 1956 under the title of Bibliography of Mauritius, 1502–1954. It was compiled with particular attention to historical development and with the main object of meeting the needs of those interested in history. To keep it up to date a bibliographical supplement including additional material recorded during each successive year from 1955 onwards, is issued as an appendix to the annual report of the Archives Department. Six supplements have appeared.

In 1961 the Mauritius Archives Publication Fund Committee issued it fifth publication entitled: *Les voyages du chirurgien Avine à l'Ile de France et dans la mer des Indes au début du XIXe siècle,* edited by Raymond Decary, of the *Académie des Sciences d'Outre-Mer.*

Former publications of the Committee comprise an Atlas-Souvenir to commemorate the work of Abbé de la Caille in Mauritius, a selection of documents on early American trade with Mauritius, an inventory of the records of the French East India Company's administration for 1715–1768 perserved in the Archives and a study on Mauritius and the spice trade.

The British Council

The British Council continued its work of explaining and interpreting the British way of iife throughout the island. During the year under review, membership of the British Council Library totalled 1,839 adults and the number of books issued was 36,476. The number of British newspapers and periodicals on view in the reading-room was 123. £150 worth of new books was presented to secondary schools.

Two scholarships for the study in the United Kingdom of the teaching of English as a foreign language were awarded to Mauritians; two Mauritian Civil Servants were given " visitorships ", which included tours and visits to places of interest in Great Britain.

The annual introductory course for students proceeding to the United Kingdom was attended by 108 Mauritian students; all

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" sponsored " students going to Great Britain were met and provided with temporary accommodation by the Overseas Students Department of the British Council in London.

Some 450 loans of documentary films were made to schools, societies and individuals.

A holiday course for teachers of English in private secondary schools was held in August, directed by Dr. G. C. Thornley who was sent by the British Council to Mauritius for this purpose. The Representative acted as Chief Examiner for the test in oral English of the School Certificate examination held in November.

Other Professional and Cultural Associations

British Medical Association, Mauritius Branch

A branch of the British Medical Association was founded in 1939. Membership is granted to all medical practitioners who have qualified for registration in Mauritius, including those holding French qualifications. The Branch represents the majority of the doctors in the Island and close collaboration is maintained between Government and the profession. The Branch is frequently consulted by the Government.

Le Cercle Littéraire de Port Louis

The principal object of this Society is to seek to bring together all those interested in French culture and ideas. Its aims are to encourage, by means of annual competitions and public lectures, the study of the French language and literature.

Alliance Française

The Mauritius Branch of the Alliance Française was founded in 1884 with the object of encouraging the study of the French language by means of French courses in schools and annual examinations as well as meetings and conferences on French literature and art. Two prizes are awarded annually to the best candidates in French of the Royal College and the Queen Elizabeth College. The Labourdonnais College was opened in 1953 by the Alliance Française.

Mauritius Dramatic Club

The first record of an organised amateur theatrical production in Mauritius goes back as far as the 25th April, 1848, when officers of the 5th Battalion, the Northumberland Fusiliers, staged three one-act plays at the Port Louis Theatre.

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A Mauritius Amateur Dramatic Club was formed in 1898 and stage productions and play readings were regularly featured until the 1914–1918 War.

The present Mauritius Dramatic Club owes its origin to a revival in theatrical activity which began in early 1920 and which ultimately led to the formation of the Club in 1932. Since then stage plays, play readings and broadcasts have been frequently presented.

The Vacoas House of Debaters

This association, founded in 1936, takes a special interest in general educational and cultural development.

Fortnightly meetings are held for debates and plays, and occasional radio programmes are presented on the Mauritius Broadcasting Service. Lectures by eminent outside personalities are delivered from time to time.

A Scholarship Fund, authorized by Government, provides for the educational needs of pupil-members taking a secondary course of studies. A girls' section was started in January, 1952, for the benefit of girls of 12 and upwards.

Tennis, volley ball, table-tennis, outings, open air camping are some of the recreational activities.

The Mental and Physical Culture Association

The principal aims of this Association are to encourage the study of the English language and literature and to assist its members to obtain facilities for enjoying sports such as tennis and football.

The Hindi Pracharini Sabha

This society was established in 1935 with headquarters at Montagne Longue. Its main object is to promote and encourage the study of Hindi in Mauritius. 101 Hindi Schools are at present affiliated to it. Efforts are being made to produce a uniform curriculum in all Hindi schools, to improve the standard of teaching, and to foster the study of Hindi language and literature. Two annual examinations in Higher Hindi are conducted with the collaboration of the Hindi Sahilya Sammelan, Allahabad, India.

The Young Men's Christian Association

The Mauritius Y.M.C.A. was founded in collaboration with the London Central Y.M.C.A. and inaugurated in August, 1952. It is also a member of the World Council of Y.M.C.A.

The P.E.N. Club de l'Océan Indien

The Mauritius section of the " Federation Internationale des P.E.N. Clubs " was founded in Mauritius in 1951. It seeks to

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promote a spirit of understanding and friendship among the writers of all sections of the community and also among those of the neighbouring islands.

The English Association

Founded in 1946, the English Association is the outcome of a movement started by a group of English and Mauritian ladies and gentlemen with the primary object of helping Mauritian secondary school-children who were learning English to a better knowledge of the tongue and to a fuller acquaintance with English literature and culture. These school-children, usually weak in spoken English through lack of practice, were above all to be given opportunities of speaking English and of hearing it spoken by English people.

The Association, which has a membership of about 60 and works in close co-operation with the British Council, tries to achieve its aims by engaging in as many activities as possible likely to be of assistance to students of English language and literature. Film shows, dramatic performances, and broadcasts in English are arranged for school children and essay-writing competitions are held. Above all, annual competitions in elocution, acting and choral singing are held and the prize-winners take part in a public recital. The number of schools taking part in these competitions is steadily increasing.

The Association has since its foundation been honoured with the patronage of the Governors of the Colony, its first Patron having been Sir Donald Mackenzie-Kennedy.

Centre Culturel Français

The *Centre Culturel Français* which was inaugurated in May, 1959, had, by the end of the year, enrolled some 700 members drawn up from all sections of the community.

The *Centre Culturel Français* is provided with a film unit, a goodsized library, an auditorium where records may be played at will. The Centre, situated at Curepipe, is open to the public. It is administered by two Honorary Chairmen (one of whom is the Consul for France), one President, two Vice-Presidents assisted by a Working Committee of 26 members.

The activities of the *Centre Culturel Français* are many and varied. Documentary films are shown twice weekly to the public while a cine-club operates for members only once weekly. Talks are given regularly on many subjects, literary as well as scientific, by visiting lecturers or by members of the Centre. Socials, seminars, debates, literary matinees are also held at the Centre.

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PART III

Chapter 1: Geography and Climate

POSITION

Few people living outside the Indian Ocean area would, without research, be able to place Mauritius accurately, unless perhaps they were stamp-collectors. On the map of the Indian Ocean the Island is shown by a dot somewhere near the centre. Yet it has laid claim with some degree of historical justification to the title of "The Star and Key of the Indian Ocean". It is situated about 500 miles off the centre of the east coast of Madagascar, and is practically on the Tropic of Capricorn. By sea, it is 1,552 miles distant from Durban, 2,094 from Colombo and 3,182 from Perth. The voyage to the United Kingdom *via* the Suez Canal entails a journey of 6,942 miles, but if the alternate route *via* the Cape of Good Hope is taken the distance is 8,393 miles. Nowadays, most people travel to and from the Island by air, to Europe, India or South Africa, and journeys which used to involve weeks or months have shrunk to a matter of hours.

Physical Features

Geologically, the Indian Ocean consists of two great basins separated by a central submarine ridge running southwards from India. Mauritius is one of the few points on this ridge which appear above the surface. It is of purely volcanic origin and the Island we know today is probably only the worn down summit of an immense shield volcano which built itself up from the ocean bed in Cretaceo-Tertiary times. There were two distinct phases of volcanic activity, separated by a very long period of erosion. The older volcanic series began by the opening of a fissure in the earth's crust beneath the floor of the Indian Ocean. Eruptions slowly built up a submarine ridge of considerable height and extent. The base of the future island of Mauritius was one of the domes of this ridge. The island that appeared was perhaps, at one time, as high as the present-day Himalayas; then before the first cycle of volcanic activity ceased, a series of explosions partially destroyed what had been built up. During the very long period of quiescence which followed, the agents of erosion—wind and water, heat and cold—reduced the volcanic pile to a mere remnant. The olivine basalt blocks of the older volcanic series are hard, compact and black in colour.

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Towards the close of the Tertiary period, the second great phase of volcanic activity occurred. It was divided into two periods of eruptions, separated by a short period of erosion. The first outburst appears to have been confined to the south-west of Mauritius; the last one consisted of a succession of thin lava flows from 2″ to 20″ in thickness. These cover about 70 per cent of the present surface of the Island. Lava tunnels dating from this period are common, some of them carrying underground streams. There are also low hummocks *(tumuli)* of up to 15 feet in height, and a few depressions (e.g. at *Ile d'Ambre* and the *Puits des Hollandais)*. The rocks of the younger volcanic series are medium grey doleritic basalts.

Volcanic activity must have ceased in Mauritius more than 100,000 years ago, although the neighbouring French Island of Réunion still has an active volcano. In Mauritius a complicated series of geological submergences and emergences followed the cessation of volcanic activity. The present is a period of slow submergence. Raised reefs and beaches are found at many localities along the coast, some as much as 60 feet above sea level. The Island rests on a submarine shelf varying from ½ to 2½ miles in width, except towards the North where it covers an area of 15 by 13 miles. Outside this shelf the submarine ridge slopes rapidly down to the mean Indian Ocean depth of 2,000 fathoms.

Mauritius, which is roughly pear-shaped, is 38 miles long by 29 miles broad. From the North an extensive undulating plain rises gently towards the central plateau, where it reaches a height of about 2,200′ before dropping sharply to the southern and western coasts. There are three main groups of mountains—the Port Louis group running in a east-north-easterly direction, the Black River—Savanne group massed in a north to south direction, and the Bambous group with a east-west trend. The mountains are a striking feature of the Mauritian landscape, rising abruptly from the surrounding plain, with their lower slopes covered with dense vegetation—now being replaced by sugar cane or tea—and their upper slopes ending in precipitous rocky peaks with most distinctive outlines. They appear to be much higher than they actually are, and are particularly impressive in the early morning or towards sunset. Few visitors fail to notice the contrast between these stark, upthrusting masses, and the flat, fertile cultivated plains from which they rise.

The main watershed of the Island runs northwards across the central plateau for a distance of about 20 miles. From this ridge the ground slopes towards the coast, except where interrupted by

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the mountain ranges or by isolated peaks. The rivers consequently tend to run westward or eastward. Most of them are short and fast flowing, generally at the bottom of deep ravines and interrupted by waterfalls. Some of the larger have been harnessed for hydro-electric purposes. True crater lakes are found at Bassin Blanc and Grand Bassin, but in general water conservation is achieved by man-made reservoirs, of which there are now six.

The Island is almost completely encircled by coral fringing reefs, within which are peaceful lagoons and a succession of lovely beaches of white, coral sand. Together with the mountains, the seashore is the glory of Mauritius and much of the social life of the Island is based upon it. Those who can afford the cost, have sea-side residences which they occupy during the winter months and at weekends for most of the other months. Public beaches give an outlet to the less favoured part of the population. As may be expected, swimming, sailing and fishing are popular pastimes in which all sections of the population indulge, no part of the Island being more than 17 miles from the coast.

Mauritius has a number of island dependencies in the Indian Ocean. These are Rodrigues (350 miles to the east), Chagos Archipelago (1,180 miles north-east in the direction of Ceylon), Agalega and Cargados Carajos (580 miles and 250 miles respectively north of Mauritius).

Rodrigues*, the principal dependency, is a mountainous island of volcanic formation encircled by a coral reef and has a total area of about 40 square miles. It measures 9½ miles in length by 4½ miles in width and its population consists mostly of fishermen and small cultivators.

Chagos* consists of five groups of coral islands, the biggest of which is Diégo Garcia. The horseshoe-shaped ribbon of land lying just above sea level surrounds a lagoon thirteen miles long and between four and five miles wide.

Agalega* consists of two small islands, separated by a narrow strip of sandbank. This dependency is the main source of copra for the edible oil industry of Mauritius.

The archipelago of Cargados Carajos*, usually referred to by the name of the principal islet, St Brandon, is a fishing station leased to a Mauritian company.

*See Maps at end of Report.

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Climate and Vegetation

Mauritius enjoys a sub-tropical maritime climate, with sufficient difference between summer and winter to avoid monotony, and further variation is introduced by the wide range of rainfall and temperature resulting from the mountainous nature of the island. Humidity is rather high throughout the year and rainfall is sufficient to maintain a green cover of vegetation, except for a brief period in the driest districts. The greenness of the Island is, indeed, a striking feature of the territory giving an impression of high natural fertility. This is deceptive, as the soils are generally shallow and are poor in phosphates and exchangeable bases. The fertility of the Island is in fact largely the consequence of man's intervention and skill.

The summer season runs from November to April, and the winter from June to October, though the months April—June and September—November can be looked upon as transitional periods and are usually the most pleasant in the year. Rain falls mainly in summer, but there is no well-defined dry season. At sea the annual rainfall near Mauritius is about 40 inches, but the uplift of the moisture-laden sea air, caused by the mountains, results in a rainfall varying from about 35 inches on the south-west coast to 200 inches on the central plateau. Variation from year to year is not large, but is nevertheless sufficiently great to reduce considerably the size of the sugar and other crops when the year is dry. In very wet years the rain water percolates through the soil and is carried off in the ravines without causing much damage.

Average relative humidity varies from 60 per cent in October to 68 per cent in February on the coast in the Port Louis area. Upcountry, at Curepipe, the variation is from 87 per cent in the drier months to 90 per cent average in the wetter. On high ground 100 per cent humidity is frequently experienced. Relative humidity is highest about dawn and lowest at noon, but the daily range is only about 13 per cent because of the maritime climate. For the same reason, neither the seasonal nor the dry range of temperature is large.

At Port Louis, the day maximum and night minimum temperatures during the hottest months average 80°F and 77°F respectively: in the winter they average 76°F and 68°F. The highest and lowest temperatures ever reached are 97°F and 54°F at Port Louis, and at Curepipe, which is 1,850 feet above mean sea level, they are 90°F and 45°F.

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The amount of sunshine varies considerably from day to day, as might be expected in a mountainous, sub-tropical island, but there is relatively little change with the months of the year. In the drier north-west of the Island, there is an average of 8 hours' bright sunshine per day; on the high south-eastern slopes it averages 6 hours for most of the year but falls to 4¼ hours in mid-winter. The topography of Mauritius makes it an easy task to chase the sunshine.

For most of the year the Island experiences steady trade winds of moderate strength, blowing from south-east to east-south-east. In summer they may die away and be replaced by calms or by a northerly wind which is humid and rather warm. Summer, too, is the cyclone season, the greatest frequency being in January and February. March cyclones are more dreaded, however, as when they occur at this time of the year they damage the maturing sugarcane crop to a greater extent.

During the past century cyclones have caused winds with gust speeds of 100 miles per hour on only four or five occasions, and gust speeds reaching 60 miles per hour on about thirty occasions. Wind speeds increase towards the centre of a tropical cyclone, so little damage is likely to be caused if the centre passes at some distance from the Island. After 15 years of freedom from cyclones, the island was hit by two major ones early in 1960 during one of which a gust of 159 m.p.h. was recorded. During 1961 no cyclones affected Mauritius but there was a severe drought until March.

Population

Mauritius has the unenviable claim to fame of being one of the most densely populated agricultural areas in the world, with a population increase of 31 per cent in the last decade and no outlets in sight for its surplus population. The effect of this population increase has been described in a recent Sessional Paper as "a situation of real gravity, which will steadily deteriorate and which can only be remedied if policies, deliberately directed to that end, are framed and enthusiastically pursued."

The problem is further complicated by the heterogeneous nature of the population, drawn from European, African and Asian sources over the last three centuries. The largest ethnic group is the Indo-Mauritian, representing two-thirds of the total population, and subdivided into Hindus and Muslims. The second largest group, about one-quarter of the population, comprises people of French, English and mixed descent, is Christian and mainly Roman Catholic. The last distinct group is the Sino-Mauritian, half

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Christian, half Buddhist. The employment pattern has tended to follow the racial, although it is being increasingly obscured by the need to find work wherever it offers. Generally speaking, however, the Hindus are agricultural, the Muslims are traders and industrial workers, the Chinese are shop-keepers, and the General Population clerical, commercial and professional urban dwellers. Population density throughout the Island exceeds 900 per square mile, but this figure does not reveal the true position which is that the population is concentrated in a number of towns and villages. The population density of the capital, Port Louis, is in excess of 43,000 per square mile, and the Plaines Wilhems townships have a density ranging from 8,000—16,000. More than half the total population is below 20 years of age—a situation of real gravity in a territory with no natural outlet for its surplus population.

Economic Conditions

To-day, sugar means more to Mauritius than wool did to England in the days of the Merchant Guilds. The sugar cane covers 90 per cent of the total area under cultivation, and the yield represents 96 per cent of all arable production. Nearly 45 per cent of the total area of the Island is cultivated, an intensity of cultivation with few parallels in the tropics. Of this area, what is not under sugar is producing tea (mainly in the up-lands), tobacco, some maize, vegetables and in the drier coastal areas, aloe fibre for the making of sacks.

Originally indigenous forests covered the greater part of the Island. From the surviving remnants it is possible to distiguish two types—the rich, evergreen forests of the uplands where the rainfall is in excess of 75″ per annum, and the dry forests in the areas of lower rainfall. In all, they amount to only a few thousand acres of the area at present forested, the majority with exotic conifers and eucalyptus. The two disastrous cyclones which struck the Island at the beginning of 1960 have played *havoc* in the forests and the exotic species, specially conifers have in many cases been reduced to a chaotic mass of broken banches and trunks. Crown forests, mainly in the uplands, cover 67,000 acres. Around the coast there are 3,500 acres of Crown Land leased for tree cultivation. River and mountain reserves in private hands slightly exceed 15,000 acres. The forests have a dual function, as a protective cover on unproductive ground forming the catchment area of a number of rivers, and for producing most of the timber needed by the Island for construction or for use as fuel.

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With such a high proportion of land under arable crops and forest cover there is little room for livestock production. Cattle number only about 40,000. Pig-keeping is limited; sheep do not do well; goats are kept mainly by the Indian population; poultry-keeping both on an industrial basis and as a background occupation is growing in popularity. But the Island as a whole has placed its reliance on the skill of the sugar industry to continue to provide it with the means of purchasing from abroad its food and clothing, manufactured goods, machinery, fertilizers and building material—in fact, practically all it needs to live.

Domestic exports usually vary between 250 and 325 million rupees a year and sugar account for about 97 per cent of this total. Tea and Molasses are the only other exports from the Colony which exceed an annual value of over one million rupees. In 1961 the imports have exceeded the exports by 25 million* rupees as compared with 147 million rupees in 1960 when exports were at a very low level as a consequence of the damages caused to sugar plantations by two violent cyclones. On the other hand the excess of exports over imports for the years 1956 to 1959 has amounted to about 129 million rupees. Almost all the sugar goes to the United Kingdom and Canada. Similarly about three quarters of the imports come from within the Commonwealth. Port Louis, the capital and the only port equipped to handle ocean-going vessels, handles the sugar exports by means of lighters carrying the bagged sugar to ships moored in the stream. Inward freight is mainly discharged into lighters also and as a new transit shed is in course of construction it is expected that the additional storage space will have a marked effect on more speedy clearance of goods.

Mauritius is completely lacking in mineral resources, has no *entrepot* trade and, apart from sugar and its by-products, has few manufacturing enterprises. It is a text-book example of a one crop economy.

Communications

This small island of 720 square miles has an excellent system of road communications, exceeding 800 miles in all, of which 62 per cent are tarred. Road traffic is extremely dense. The railway service, now reduced by closures of uneconomic lines to a total of 77¼ miles, is a Government enterprise and handles only goods traffic. There is only one airport in Mauritius, situated at Plaisance, in the south-east of the Island about three miles from the coast, and

* Provisional

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managed by the Civil Aviation Department of the Mauritius Government. No aircraft is based on Mauritius and no internal services exist. Regular external air services are operated (twice weekly) by AIR FRANCE *via* Nairobi, Madagascar and Réunion and (in alternate weeks) between Australia and South Africa *via* Cocos Islands and Mauritius by QANTAS EMPIRE AIRWAYS and SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS.

Communication with the Dependencies is ensured by a passenger steamship service, with eight to ten sailings a year to Rodrigues. The minor dependencies are linked regularly by ships belonging to the commercial companies, to which the islands are leased for the production of copra, the collecting of guano or the exploitation of the off-shore fishing.

There is an efficient public telephone and telegraph system throughout the Island, which is linked with the rest of the world by Cable and Wireless Ltd., now operating radio-telephone links with many countries as well as its long-established world-wide cable service ".

Finally, reference should be made to the Government operated Mauritius Broadcasting Service, which provides medium wave transmissions for local listeners and a short-wave service for listeners overseas.

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Chapter 2: History

The Island was probably visited both by Arab sailors and by Malays during the Middle Ages, and on maps of about 1500 it is shown with an Arabic name. During the early sixteenth century Portuguese sailors visited it several times, and the first European to discover Mauritius is believed to have been Domingos Fernandez. The Island appears on many sixteenth century maps with the Portuguese name of *Cerné* or *Cirné*.

Dutch sailors first visited the Island in 1598 and renamed it Mauritius, after their ruler Prince Maurice of Nassau; later they made frequent calls on their trading expeditions to the East Indies. First-hand accounts exist of these visits, and of visits by English, French and Danish ships, which called at Mauritius for water, food and cargoes of ebony. An English trading company planned to occupy the Island but was forestalled in 1638 by a Dutch company, whose settlement lasted (with a gap from 1658 to 1664) until 1710. It was from Mauritius in 1642 that Tasman set out on his most important voyage of Australasian discovery.

The Dutch settlers never numbered much over three hundred (including children and slaves) and the most useful element was a group of twenty or thirty farmers, rearing cattle, hunting, fishing and growing food crops as well as some tobacco. But the settlement never developed enough to produce dividends and the Dutch company finally abandoned it in 1710. The most noteworthy results of this Dutch occupation were the exploitation of the Islands's great ebony forests and the extinction of the Dodo, a bird peculiar to Mauritius, often mentioned by early seventeenth-century travellers. The Dutch are also to be remembered for the introduction of sugarcane, cotton, domestic animals and deer. Before the Dutch occupation the Island was uninhabited. The slaves introduced into Mauritius by the Dutch were brought from Madagascar.

The French in 1715 claimed the Island and called it *Ile de France,* but do not seem to have settled any of their surplus Bourbon colonists there until 1722. In the intervals, European pirates from Madagascar and ships of the British Navy, searching for the pirates, were almost the only visitors.

From 1722 till about 1767 Mauritius was governed by the French East India Company. From 1767 to 1810 it was in charge of officials appointed by the French Government, apart from a brief period of independence under the Colonial Assembly during the

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French Revolution. In 1735 the population had grown to almost one thousand, including two hundred Europeans, and from the time of the governorship of Mahé de Labourdonnais onwards increased rapidly, reaching nearly twenty thousand in 1767 (fifteen thousand of them slaves). Labourdonnais did more than any other Governor to change what was a petty outpost into a strong, prosperous and well populated colony. Much of the land was divided into concessions of approximately a quarter-mile by a mile, and most of these were farmed. Coffee, manioc, maize, vegetables, fruit, indigo, cloves and sugar were among the crops grown. There was some rearing of poultry, goats and cattle.

Towards the end of the Company's rule Port Louis, the capital, was a lair of speculators and adventurers desirous of returning to Europe as soon as they had made their fortunes. During the wars of the eighteenth century (Austrian Succession War, Seven Years War, and War of American Independence), the Island became a naval depot, supplying French fleets fighting the British in the Indian Ocean, and was the pivot of French schemes to drive the British out of their Indian trading settlements. It was also a port of call for several expeditions, notably that of Bougainville, and was described by many French travellers, of whom the best known is Bernardin de Saint Pierre, author of *Paul et Virginie*.

From 1767, under royal government, the population continued to increase, reaching thirty thousand in 1777, forty thousand in 1787, and nearly sixty thousand in 1797, including fifty thousand slaves from Madagascar and Africa. During the French Revolution the inhabitants of Mauritius set up a government virtually independent of France, because the property owners were resolved to defend their interests against the *Jacobins* and *sans culottes* and to resist the attempt made by the French revolutionary government to release the slaves. The Colonial Assembly organised successful and damaging raids on English commerce whenever England and France were at war. The raids continued while Decaen, one of Napoleon's generals, was Governor until in 1810 a strong British expedition, long planned and more than once postponed, was sent to capture the Island. A preliminary attack was foiled at Grand Port in August, 1810, but the main attack, launched in December of the same year with larger forces, was successful. Bourbon and Rodrigues were also occupied by the British in 1810, but by the Treaty of Paris in 1814 Bourbon was given back to France. Mauritius and its dependencies, including Rodrigues and the Seychelles, were then ceded definitely to Great Britain.

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Many English officials were brought in, together with a large garrison of several regiments. By 1870 the garrison had been gradually reduced to half a battalion, which was still further reduced after 1914. Few English merchants and private persons have settled in Mauritius, whose European population has remained mainly French in language and sentiment although loyal to the British Crown. After 1825 the Island flourished, especially by the export of sugar to England, the crop increasing from 14,000 tons to 34,000 tons in the decade 1823–33. During these early years the English Government's policy of suppression of the slave trade and the consequent plans to free the slaves were opposed until a sum of two million pounds sterling had been paid to the slave owners as compensation for the loss of their slaves. To replace the freed slaves labourers were brought from India to work in the fields. The population, which in 1833 had reached a hundred thousand (three-quarters of them slaves), had by 1861 risen to three hundred thousand, nearly two hundred thousand of them being immigrants from India, most of whom remained to settle in Mauritius.

With the aid of immigrant labour, imported fertilizers, improved methods of agriculture and richer cane varieties, the sugar crop rose to 70,000 tons in 1853, 150,000 tons by 1900, and in 1959 reached the record figure of 580,372 tons. In the interest of the sugar industry, forests were cut down, labourers brought in, reservoir and irrigation schemes carried out, new government departments set up and technicians trained. As Joseph Conrad wrote: " First rate sugarcane is grown there. All the population lives for it and by it. Sugar is their daily bread ".

Other industries were sporadically encouraged and usually neglected. After the slaves had been freed, much less food was grown locally and more was imported, especially rice from India. This became the staple food of the population and remained so, except in the 1939–45 war when rice supplies from Burma and India were cut off and imported flour and local crops had to be used as substitutes. When boom prices were being paid for sugar after the 1914–18 war, various minor industries including tea, brick and tile manufacture, tobacco, aloe fibre bags and a government dairy were developed.

One side of Mauritian history is concerned with cyclones, epidemics and crop pests, which from time to time have upset the economy of the island. In the eighteen-fifties there were epidemics of cholera and in the eighteen-sixties five years of epidemic malaria which caused in 1867 the death of 20,000 people in Port Louis alone

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and the mass migration of thousands of persons, including almost all the well-to-do, from Port Louis and the coastal districts to the higher, healthier parts of Plaines Wilhems. Curepipe, a scattered village in 1865, was by 1895 large enough to have a town board, nominated annually by the Governor, and by 1959 was a town of 27,900 people. The district of Plaines Wilhems, which in 1851 had 14,000 inhabitants, grew to 75,000 in 1921 and 194,800 in 1961. The cyclone of 1892, in which 1,200 persons were killed; the epidemic of sura in 1902, which killed off all the draught oxen and caused sugar estates hurriedly to import light railways; bubonic plague in 1899; the *Phytalus Smithi* beetle, which in 1911 was found to be attacking the sugarcane; the 1919 epidemic of influenza; the spread of malaria during the nineteen-thirties into the hills and higher districts; three cyclones and a serious outbreak of poliomyelitis in 1945 and finally two severe cyclones in 1960 are some of the greater misfortunes woven into the pattern of the Island's history.

When sugar prices were high and the Island was prosperous, living conditions were improved in various ways. The sanitation of Port Louis was improved in the eighteen-nineties after long discussion. Sir Ronald Ross's visit in 1908 led to useful anti-malarial work during the next twenty years. Reservoirs at Mare-aux-Vacoas (1893–95),La Ferme (1918), La Nicolière (1924) and Piton du Milieu (1956) brought irrigation and domestic water in private houses and to sugar estates in several districts. Child welfare and similar activities developed in the war years. After expert inquiries in 1921 the water supply of Port Louis was greatly improved and the port itself was modernised. Under the stimulus of the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts more money was spent on education after the War. Before 1937 government revenue had come mainly from taxes on goods entering or leaving the Island as well as on various local products. A graduated poll tax on incomes was introduced and within ten years had almost doubled government revenue. The poll tax was replaced by an income tax as from the 1st July, 1951. The revenue from this source rose from Rs 17,322,000 in the financial year 1950–51 to Rs 41,371,113 in the financial year 1960–61.

At times when sugar prices were low or climatic difficulties discouraging, the Island had to raise loans or obtain grants from London. This happened in 1892, in 1908 when a Royal Commission of Inquiry under Sir Frank Swettenham was sent out from England, in 1930 when government expenditure on public works and on salaries was cut, in 1945 and 1960 as the consequence of the disastrous cyclones of these years.

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The main political events of the period 1850–1900 were the establishment of the Municipality of Port Louis in 1850, the Royal Commission of Enquiry on Indian Immigration in 1872, and the creation in 1886 of a Council of Government including elected members.

The early years of the present century were a period of slow recovery after the epidemics, cyclones and other calamities. The years that immediately followed the 1914–18 war were years of unprecedented prosperity, owing to a boom in sugar prices, but this prosperity did not last long. During the second World War, Mauritius assumed considerable strategic importance through the closing of the Suez Canal and the threat to India by the Japanese after their conquest of most of the European settlements in the Far East. The population at large played a valuable part in the organisation of local, military, and passive defence and a large number of the Colony's youth volunteered to serve overseas.

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Chapter 3: Administration

Central Government

The Government of Mauritius is vested in a Governor with an Executive Council and a Legislative Council.

A Council of Government was first established in 1825. It consisted of the Governor and four officials. In the following year the Constitution was amended and a Council which included unofficial members was introduced. This Constitution provided for a Council of Government composed of certain officers of the Crown and an equal number of other persons, to be taken from the chief landowners and principal merchants of the Colony; seven officials and seven non-officials were accordingly appointed.

The Constitution was again amended in October, 1885. The Council of Government under the revised Constitution was composed of the Governor, eight *ex officio* members, nine members nominated by the Governor, and ten elected members; of the latter, two represented the town of Port Louis, the capital of the Island, and the remaining eight represented the rural districts. At least one-third of the nominated members were to be persons not holding any public office.

The Constitution was further amended in July, 1933, by fixing at two-thirds the proportion of the nominated members of the Council who were to be non-officials and, although no provision to that effect was made in the Letters Patent, the nominated non-official members were allowed a free vote on all occasions. The constitution of the Executive Council, which had hitherto been composed of the Governor and four *ex officio* members, was amended at the same time, and the practice of appointing non-official members to the Council, which had prevailed before the Royal Commission of 1909 reported, was revived.

The normal life of a Council is five years, but the last one to sit under the 1933 Constitution lasted from 1936 to 1948. This long extension was due first of all to the war and subsequently to the delay in arriving at a final decision on the new and more liberal Constitution. The protracted labours of the Consultative Committee on the revision of the constitution had ended in a virtual stalemate. In 1947 the then Governor, Sir Donald Mackenzie-Kennedy, broke this stalemate by submitting to the Secretary of State revised proposals based on his belief that the bulk of the population was not ready for fully democratic institutions. To guard against possible

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abuse certain safeguards were suggested, but within these limitations the widest possible measure of enfranchisement, on the basis of a "simple literacy" requirement, was recommended by the Governor, whose recommendations were accepted and embodied in the Letters Patent, Royal Instructions and Order in Council dated the 9th December, 1947. A general election was held in August, 1948, and the new Council met on the first day of September.

Constituencies were regrouped under the Order in Council of December, 1947. Plaines Wilhems and Black River were joined together to form one constituency returning six members. The constituencies of Pamplemousses/Rivière du Rempart, Moka/Flacq and Grand Port/Savanne each returned three members, and the constituency of Port Louis had four members.

Under the 1933 Constitution the number of registered electors was never greater than 12,000 (the figure of December, 1947, was 11,799). The number of registered electors under the 1947 Constitution was six times greater—71,723 having qualified to vote in the 1948 general election—and by the end of 1957 had risen to 91,010.

In 1958, by virtue of the Mauritius (Electoral Provisions) Order in Council, 1958, the 40 constituencies recommended in the report of the Mauritius Electoral Boundary Commission were demarcated and proclaimed, the registration of electors for the Legislative Council was undertaken for the first time on the basis of universal adult suffrage and the number of registered electors rose to 208,684.

On the 31st December, 1958, the Second Legislative Council was dissolved and the Mauritius (Constitution) Order in Council, 1958, was brought into operation with the exception of Part II thereof, relating to the Executive Council. The way was thus clear for a general election for the Legislative Council on the basis provided in the constitutional Order in Council to take place early in 1959.

The Legislative Council was composed in 1960 of the Speaker, three *ex officio*, 40 elected and 12 nominated non-official members. The Governor formerly presided but since January, 1957, the Council has had a Speaker appointed by the Governor, in accordance with the Mauritius (Legislative Council) (Amendment) Order in Council, 1956, and the Mauritius (Constitution) Orders in Council, 1958 and 1959. A Deputy Speaker is elected by the Council from amongst those members who are not Ministers.

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The Mauritius (Constitution) Order in Council 1961, which resulted from constitutional discussions held in London, provided for the appointment of a Chief Minister and the creation of an additional Minister of Information, Posts and Telegraphs and Telecommunications.*

In debates in the Legislative Council members may speak either in English or in French.

The Executive Council consists of three officials (the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General and the Financial Secretary), and nine members appointed by the Governor from amongst elected or nominated members of the Legislative Council in accordance with section 7 of the Mauritius (Constitution) Order in Council, 1958. The *ex officio* and appointed members are styled Ministers. Each Minister is responsible for the administration of specified departments or subjects and is bound by the rules of collective responsibility. Besides the official members, nine Ministers hold portfolios as Minister of Finance, Minister of Health and Reform Institutions, Minister of Labour and Social Security, Minister of Education and Cultural Affairs, Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Minister of Local Govenment and Co-operative Development, Minister of Housing, Lands and Town and Country Planning, Miniter of Industry, Commerce and External Communications, and Minister of Works and Internal Communications.

The Minister of Finance assumed the duties of Chief Minister and is now Chief Minister and Minister of Finance. The Executive Council, which was formerly a purely advisory body, now has full executive responsibility and is the principal instrument of policy. The Governor is obliged to consult with Executive Council in the formulation of policy and in the exercise of all powers conferred upon him by the Mauritius Letters Patent, other than those which he is empowered to exercise in his discretion, and to act in accordance with the advice of the Executive Council.

The names of members of the Executive and Legislative Councils are given in Appendices II and III to this Report.

The head of the Civil Service is the Colonial Secretary. He is the Governor's principal official adviser on administrative and political matters. The Financial Secretary is the chief financial and economic adviser of the Minister of Finance.

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*The new Minister was appointed only in 1962.

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The Public Service Commission Ordinance was passed in 1953 (No. 23 of that year) providing for the constitution of a Public Service Commission with a membership of not more than four members including the Chairman. The Ordinance was brought into force with effect from the 11th May, 1955, by Proclamation. Subsequently the Ordinance was amended by the Public Service (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 23 of 1959) increasing the number of members to five. By virtue of section 52 of the Mauritius (Constitution) Order in Council, 1958, as amended by section 2 of the Mauritius (Constitution) (Amendment) Order in Council, 1959, the Commission is part of the constitution of Mauritius. The Commission's function is to advise the Governor on appointments, promotions, disciplinary action and other matters which are referred to it in accordance with the provisions of the Ordinance. During 1961 the Commission considered 3,155 applications in connexion with first appointments to 668 posts, as well as the claims of 303 candidates for promotions: this involved a total of 573 interviews. The Commission also advised on 29 disciplinary cases and considered 56 matters concerning the grant of study leave or scholarships.

The Police Service Commission consists of a Chairman and four other members in accordance with section 3 of the Mauritius (Constitution) (Amendment) Order in Council, 1959, under which it was constituted on 28th July, 1959: the Chairman of the Public Service Commission serves as Chairman.

The function of the Commission is to advise the Governor on any question relating to the appointment, promotion, dismissal or disciplinary control of members of the police force and on any matters affecting the police force which may be referred to it.

Local Government

Urban

The Municipality of Port Louis was first established in 1850. The membership of the Municipal Council, which is wholly elected, was increased from 12 to 16 by the Municipality (Amendment) Ordinance, 1950 (No. 35 of that year). The Mayor and Deputy Mayor are elected by the Council for appointment by the Governor.

In Plaines Wilhems the Town Councils (Constitution) Ordinance (No. 38 of 1950) provided for Town Councils to replace the former Boards of Commissioners for Curepipe, Beau Bassin/Rose Hill, and Quatre Bornes. The majority of the members are elected but each Council has a proportion of members nominated by the Governor: Curepipe and Beau Bassin/Rose Hill each have twelve elected and four nominated members, while Quatre Bornes has ten elected and three nominated members.

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The franchise was until recently based on residence plus a simple literacy test, occupation of business premises in the electoral area, or the payment of rates or taxes. During 1959, however, the decision was taken to hold the Municipal and Town Council elections on the basis of universal adult suffrage and certain taxpayers qualifications. In consequence the Municipality (Transitional Provisions) Ordinance and the Town Councils (Transitional Provisions) Ordinance (Nos. 2 and 3 of 1959) were passed postponing the elections, which were due to be held in December, 1959, to 1960. In Port Louis and Quatre Bornes polling took place on the 11th December; there was no poll in Curepipe and Beau Bassin—Rose Hill, the number of candidates being equal to the number of available seats.

The number of registered electors for the Municipal and Town Councils at the end of 1961 was as follows:—

Council	*Registered electors*
Port Louis	... 27,348
Curepipe	... 11,423
Beau Bassin/Rose Hill	... 11,193
Quatre Bornes ...	... 8,082

By virtue of the Local Government Elections Ordinance (No. 1 of 1956) responsibility for the registration of electors and for the conduct of elections in the electoral areas of the Municipality and the three Town Councils was placed on an Electoral Commisioner appointed by the Governor. In 1956 electors were registered and the general elections for the Municipal and Town Councils were conducted in accordance with the provisions of that Ordinance for the first time. This Ordinance, however, has been repealed by the Representation of the People Ordinance (No. 14 of 1958) which provides for the registration of electors and the conduct of elections for both the Legislative Council and the Municipal and Town Councils. Responsibility for the registration of electors and the conduct of elections continues to be vested in an Electoral Commissioner and the Municipal and Town Council elections were held in accordance with the provisions of the new Ordinance.

Rural

A fresh start in rural local government was made in October, 1946, when a Civil Commissioner was appointed to take charge of the southern districts of Grand Port and Savanne. In May, 1947, a second Civil Commissioner was appointed for the northern districts of Pamplemousses and Rivière du Rempart, and a third Civil Commissioner for the districts of Moka and Flacq, assumed duty

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towards the end of 1948. In October, 1952, Black River was added to the districts for which the Civil Commissioner (South) was responsible. In September, 1955, a fourth Civil Commissioner was appointed to take charge of Black River District, the extra-urban areas of Plaines Wilhems and the southern extra-urban areas of Port Louis. The northern extra-urban areas of Port Louis are within the province of the Civil Commissioner (North). The Civil Commissioner is the principal administrative and executive officer of Government in his district and he is responsible for coordinating the whole machinery of Government. The Civil Commissioner is also responsible for the development of local government in his district and for ensuring the welfare of its inhabitants by all means at his disposal.

Village councils were first constituted in 1947. A few councils developed very rapidly indeed and were given government contracts for such services as scavenging and the upkeep of cemeteries. With funds provided by the Central Government, councils undertook road repairs, the construction of bridges, markets, public latrines and primary school buildings, improvements to water supplies, the creation of a day nursery and even a housing experiment. Not all village councils have reached the same standard.

New impetus was given to rural local government by the Village Councils and District Councils Ordinances which came into force in 1952. Regular elections and powers to raise taxes, own property and make bye-laws greatly enhanced the status of the village councils. The district council, which advises the Civil Commissioner on matters of policy, allocates funds to village councils and generally correlates their work, is able to raise certain taxes not applicable to any one village. At the end of 1952 district councils were set up in each of the three Civil Commissioners' districts following elections held under the Ordinance. In Plaines Wilhems/Black River District a district council was constituted for the first time after the village council elections held in 1958.

At the end of 1961 there were 29 village councils in the South, 30 in Moka/Flacq, 30 in the North and 22 in Plaines Wilhems/Black River.

Village councils consist of eight members elected on a liberal franchise and four members nominated by the Governor. District councils consist of the Civil Commissioner and thirteen other members. These members are: an elected member of the Legislative Council appointed by the Governor; a sugar estate manager

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appointed by the Governor from among those in the district; a president of a co-operative society elected by the presidents of co-operative societies in the district; representatives of the Medical Department, and of the Ministries of Education and of Works and Internal Communications, appointed by the Governor on the recommendation of the head of department or Ministry; and seven chairmen of village councils elected by the chairman of village councils in the district. The chairman of the district council is elected by the members from amongst their number and has so far been the Civil Commissioner. The Local Government Officer is the secretary and treasurer of the district council.

Sessional Paper No. 2 of 1956 on the development of rural local government in Mauritius was accepted by the Legislative Council in 1956 as providing a sound basis for such development. The Paper reviewed the present position in regard to rural local government by village and district councils and suggested the general lines on which the responsibilities and exercise of active citizenship in the rural areas could best be developed. The proposals made in this Paper were that *(a)* district and village councils should cease to be primarily agencies for the distribution of funds derived from the Central Government and should raise their own funds, *(b)* district and village councils should have appropriate trained staff, *(c)* by 1960 the direct participation of Civil Commissioners in the work of district councils, as members of those councils, should cease, and *(d)* representatives of Government departments should similarly cease to be members of district councils by nomination. Legislation to give effect to these proposals is still under consideration.

The responsibility for the establishment and maintenance of cemeteries, other than private cemeteries and cemeteries for which urban local authorities are responsible, was transferred from the Ministry of Works to the District Councils in July, 1961.

Local government forms part of the portfolio of the Minister of Local Government and Co-operative Development.

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Chapter 4: Weights and Measures

The metric system is in general use in the Colony. Certain French measures are still used in connection with measurements of land, the more common being:

1 French foot	=	1·06 English feet
1 Arpent	=	40,000 French square feet or 1·04 acres
1 Toise	=	6 French feet or 2 yards 4 inches

The following measures of capacity are also in use:

1 Bouteille	=	800 c.c. (liquid)
1 Chopine	=	half-bouteille
1 Corde	=	80 French cubic feet or 96·82 English cubic feet (used only to measure firewood).

A measure of length commonly used in the field is the *Gaulette* which is equivalent to 10 French feet. The term *livre* is used currently to mean half a kilogram.

The Weights and Measures Control Section of the Police Force is responsible for examining and stamping weights, scales, weighing machines, measures of length and measures of capacity. This section also deals with all inaccurate weights and measures seized by the uniformed Police and issues the necessary certificates for production in Court. The control of weighbridges on sugar estates is the responsibility of the Central Board constituted under the Sale of Canes (Control) Ordinance.

The amount of duty collected on weights and measures in 1961 was Rs 7,213.99 as compared with Rs 10,006.71 in 1960.

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Chapter 5: Reading List

A list of publications of general interest relating to Mauritius is given in Appendix IV.

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APPENDIX I

Capital Expenditure Programme 1960—1965

Allocations made in Sessional Paper No. 2 of 1961 and Actual Expenditure in 1960-61

Allocation	*Total 1960-65*	*Actual Expenditure 1960-61*
	Rs	Rs
CENTRAL AND DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIONS		
Central Administration	2,220,000	731,649
District Administrations	38,000	28,995
Police	3,082,000	950,405
Fire Services	370,000	46,597
Broadcasting	1,225,000	77,684
Training Scheme	720,000	5,802
Printing	250,000	—
Special Mobile Force	203,000	85,107
Electoral Commission	120,000	—
TOTAL	8,228,000	1,926,239
TREASURY, CUSTOMS AND EXCISE MISCELLANEOUS LOANS AND SUBVENTIONS		
Treasury	106,000	69,528
Customs and Excise	150,000	—
Miscellaneous Loans and Subventions	100,000	27,000
Mauritius Agricultural Bank	47,000,000	2,133,334
TOTAL	47,356,000	2,229,862
AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES		
Agriculture	20,350,000	2,282,204
Forests	370,000	17,704
TOTAL	20,720,000	2,299,908
EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS		
Primary Education	9,765,000	965,631
Secondary Education	6,235,000	788,485
Archives	17,000	15,774
TOTAL	16,017,000	1,769,890

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APPENDIX I—*continued*

Allocation	*Total 1960–65* Rs	*Actual Expenditure 1960–61* Rs
HEALTH AND REFORM INSTITUTIONS		
Health	7,430,000	416,689
Prisons	420,000	106,850
Social Welfare	135,000	114,832
TOTAL	7,985,000	638,371
LABOUR AND SOCIAL SECURITY		
Public Assistance	300,000	—
WORKS AND INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS		
New storage and Irrigation Works	15,347,000	1,714,510
Domestic Water Supplies	7,153,000	731,975
Sewerage	19,825,000	4,101,714
Public Works	2,300,000	710,269
Roads	18,450,000	4,665,492
Posts and Telegraphs	250,000	9,594
Road Traffic Licensing Authority	400,000	75,488
TOTAL	63,725,000	12,009,042
INDUSTRY, COMMERCE AND EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS		
Secondary Industries	250,000	—
Electricity	47,620,000	5,182,556
Harbour and Quays	12,585,000	2,998,418
Telecommunications	9,265,000	4,450,338
Meteorology	250,000	50,231
Civil Aviation	7,375,000	1,037,499
Tourism	2,225,000	751,405
TOTAL	79,570,000	14,470,447
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT		
Local Government...	6,250,000	2,007,518
Co-operative Societies	400,000	59,780
TOTAL	6,650,000	2,067,298
HOUSING, LANDS AND TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING		
Housing	90,150,000	2,445,000
Cadastral Survey	25,000	16,858
TOTAL	90,175,000	2,161,858
Cyclone Emergency Expenditure	12,024,000	5,861,456
GRAND TOTAL	352,750,000	45,734,371

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APPENDIX II

(Part III—Chapter 3: Administration)

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IN 1961

President

His Excellency Sir Colville Montgomery Deverell, K.C.M.G., C.V.O., O.B.E.

T. D. Vickers, Esq., C.M.G., during His Excellency's absence at the Constitutional Conference in London (11th June to 19th July)

Ex Officio Members

The Colonial Secretary

T.D. Vickers, Esq., C.M.G., until 10th June and from 20th July

A. F. Bates, Esq., C.M.G. (Acting) from 11th June to 19th July

The Attorney General

M. Lavoipierre, Esq., Q.C., from 6th April

M. Rivalland, Esq., M.B.E. (Acting) until 5th April

The Financial Secretary

A. F. Bates, Esq., C.M.G., until 10th June; then from 20th July to 6th September and from 19th September

D. A. Kain, Esq., O.B.E. (Acting) from 11th June to 19th July

J. D. Greig, Esq. (Acting) from 7th to 18th September.

Appointed by the Governor

Dr. the Honourable S. Ramgoolam, Minister of Finance until 25th September. Chief Minister and Minister of Finance from 26th September.

The Honourable A. Beejadhur, Minister of Education and Cultural Affairs.

The Honourable S. Boolell, Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The Honourable J. G. Forget, Minister of Health and Reform Institutions.

The Honourable F. Laventure, Minister of Local Government and Co-operative Development.

The Honourable A. R. Mohamed, Minister of Housing, Lands and Town and Country Planning.

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The Honourable A. L. NAIRAC, C.B.E., Q.C., Minister of Industry, Commerce and External Communications.

The Honourable V. RINGADOO, Minister of Labour and Social Security.

The Honourable H. E. WALTER, Minister of Works and Internal Communications.

Temporary Members appointed by the Governor during Ministers' absence at the London Constitutional Conference

The Honourable R. BALGOBIN, from 12th June to 18th August

The Honourable V. GOVINDEN, M.B.E., from 12th June to 28th July

The Honourable A. H. M. OSMAN, from 15th June to 28th July

The Honourable J. R. DELAÎTRE, from 19th June to 4th August.

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APPENDIX III

(Part III—Chapter 3: Administration)

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN 1961

Speaker

The Honourable H. R. VAGHJEE

Deputy Speaker

The Honourable P. G. R. RAULT, Nominated Member until 27th September, 1961

The Honourable C. C. DAVID, Nominated Member from 3rd October, 1961

Ex Officio Members

The Colonial Secretary

T. D. VICKERS, ESQ., C.M.G., until 10th June and from 20th July

A. F. BATES, ESQ., C.M.G. (Acting) from 11th June to 19th July

The Attorney General

M. LAVOIPIERRE, ESQ., Q.C., from 6th April

M. RIVALLANND, ESQ., M.B.E. (Acting) until 5th April.

The Financial Secretary

A. F. BATES, ESQ., C.M.G. until 10th June; then from 20th July to 6th September and from 19th September

D. A. KAIN, ESQ., O.B.E. (Acting) from 11th June to 19th July

J. D. GREIG, ESQ. (Acting) from 7th to 18th September.

Elected Members

The Honourable R. BALGOBIN, Member for Grand River South East

The Honourable D. BASANT RAI, Member for Vieux Grand Port

The Honourable A. BEEJADHUR, Member for Rivière du Rempart

Dr. the Honourable R. BHAGEERUTTY, Member for La Caverne

The Honourable S. BISSOONDOYAL, Member for Rose Belle

The Honourable S. BOOLELL, Member for Montagne Blanche

The Honourable J. E. CHANGKYE, Member for Port Louis South

The Honourable P. DABEE, Member for Savanne

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APPENDIX III—*continued*

The Honourable A. DAHAL, Member for Rivière des Anguilles
The Honourable J. S. E. DAVID, Member for Midlands
The Honourable J. R. DELAÎTRE, Member for Quatre Bornes
Dr. the Honourable W. R. DUPRÉ, Member for Port Louis West
The Honourable C. G. DUVAL, Member for Curepipe
The Honourable M. FOOGOOA, Member for Montagne Longue
The Honourable J. G. FORGET, Member for Belle Rose
The Honourable G. GANGARAM, Member for Black River
The Honourable V. GOVINDEN, M.B.E., Member for Souillac
The Honourable S. INDUR, Member for Stanley
The Honourable A. H. G. M. ISSAC, Member for Port Louis Central
The Honourable K. JAGATSINGH, Member for Petite Rivière
The Honourable R. JAYPAL, Member for Grand' Baie
The Honourable R. JOMADAR, Member for Flacq
The Honourable J. M. J. L. M. J. KŒNIG, Member for Beau Bassin
The Honourable G. KOORARAM, Member for Floréal
The Honourable L. O. LACAZE, Member for Port Louis North
The Honourable A. R. MOHAMED, Member for Port Louis East
The Honourable A. MOIGNAC, Member for Grand River North West
The Honourable D. NAPAL, Member for Pamplemousses
The Honourable A. H. M. OSMAN, Member for Phœnix
Dr. the Honourable S. RAMGOOLAM, Member for Triolet
The Honourable S. Y. R. RAMJAN, Member for Port Louis Maritime
The Honourable B. RAMLALLAH, Member for Poudre d'Or
The Honourable H. RAMNARAIN, Member for Piton
The Honourable M. J. J. R. REY, Member for Moka
The Honourable V. RINGADOO, Member for Quartier Militaire
The Honourable J. N. ROY, Member for Plaine Magnien
The Honourable R. SEWGOBIND, Member for Vacoas
Dr. the Honourable L. TEELOCK, Member for Bon Accueil
The Honourable H. E. WALTER, Member for Mahébourg
The Honourable J. H. YTHIER, Member for Rose Hill

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APPENDIX III—*continued*

Nominated Members

The Honourable J. E. M. L. AH-CHUEN
Dr. the Honourable L. R. CHAPERON
The Honourable C. C. DAVID
The Honourable L. R. DEVIENNE
The Honourable F. LAVENTURE
The Honourable M. A. D. R. MAIGROT, O.B. E.
The Honourable J. G. MARIE
The Honourable A. L. NAIRAC, C.B.E., Q.C.
The Honourable I. PEEROO
The Honourable M. J. A. E. PIAT
The Honourable P. G. R. RAULT
The Honourable M. R. G. ROCHECOUSTE

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APPENDIX IV

(Part III—Chapter 5: Reading list)

Leading Books on Mauritius

GENERAL

GENERALIA

UNIENVILLE, Marie Claude Antoine Marrier, *baron* d': Statisque de l'île Maurice et ses dépendances, suivie d'une notice historique sur cette colonie et d'un Essai sur l'île de Madagascar, Paris, G. Barba, 1838. 3 v.

A second edition was published in Port Louis, Typ. The Merchants and Planters Gazette, 1885–86, 3 vols, with phot. portr.

MAURITIUS. *Central Statistical Office.* Year Book of statistics. v. 1 (1946)—v. 13 (1958).

MACMILLAN, Allister, *ed*: Mauritius Illustrated. Historical and descriptive, commercial and industrial facts, figures, and resources. London, W. H. and L. Collingridge, 1914. 456, with numerous illus. and maps.

PRIDHAM, Charles. An historical, political and statistical account of Mauritius and its dependencies. London, T. and W. Boone, 1849. xiii, 410p.

WALTER, A. Chronological table of events in Mauritius, 1507–1916. Appendix to the Mauritius Almanac, (1917). Mauritius, The Mauritius Stationery and Printing Cy. Ltd., 1917. 57p.

Fairly complete for the period of British occupation.

CHAROUX Clément. Guide illustré de l'île Maurice. Port Louis. General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1936. 64, (32), IIp., illus.

TOUSSAINT, Auguste. Port Louis, deux siècles d'histoire, (1735–1935). Avec une Préface de Pierre Crépin, Docteur-ès-Lettres, Lauréat de l'Académie Française. Port Louis, La Typographie Moderne, 1936. (IX), 516p., with 50 plates and 9 maps.

Published on the occasion of the celebration of the bi-centenary or the foundation of Port Louis under the patronage of the Bi-centenary Committee, the Historical Records Committee and the Royal Society of Arts and Sciences of Mauritius. A very full account of the development of Port Louis.

BARNWELL, P. J. *and* TOUSSAINT, A. A short history of Mauritius. London, Longmans, Green & Co., 1949. 268p., illus.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

SORNAY, Pierre de. Isle de France—Ile Maurice. Port Louis. The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1950. XIV, 550. XXVIIp., illus.

TOUSSAINT, Auguste: Select bibliography of Mauritius. Port Louis. The Standard Printing and Stationery Establishment, 1951. 56p.

TOUSSAINT, A., *and* ADOLPHE, H. Bibliography of Mauritius (1502–1954), covering the printed record, manuscripts, archivalia and cartographic material. Port Louis, Esclapon Ltd. 1956. xvii, 884p.

TOUSSAINT, Auguste: Histoire de l'Ocean Indien. Paris, Presses Universitaires de France, 1960.

ADMINISTRATIVE

ADMINISTRATION AND POLITICS

RAE, William Charles, *Comp.*: A handbook on the constitution, practice and proceedings of the Council of Government of Mauritius. Mauritius, Central Printing Establishment, 1896. XXXIX, 228p.

SWETTENHAM, *Sir* Frank Athestane, *and others*: Report of the Mauritius Royal Commission, 1909, presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty, June 1910 (Cd.5185). London, Eyre and Spottiswoode Ltd., 1910.60, XIIIp.

Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence printed separately (Cd. 5186), 581p. Documents received by the Commission also printed separately (Cd. 5187), 135p.

SWINDEN, J. B.: Local Government in Mauritius. Mauritius Government Press, 1946. 25p.

Revision of the Constitution. Correspondence with the Secretary of State for the Colonies. Mauritius, Government Press. 1947. 18p.

Problems of Parliamentary Government in Colonies—A report by the Hansard Society.

The development of rural local government in Mauritius. 12p. (Sessional Paper No. 2 of 1956).

Constitutional development in Mauritius. 56p. (Sessional Paper No. 3 of 1956).

Correspondence on proposals for Constitutional Changes 5p., (Sessional Paper No. 3 of 1957).

EVE, Malcolm Trustram. Report of the Mauritius Electoral Boundary Commission 48p. (Sessional Paper no. 1, 1958).

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

SOCIAL

POPULATION

BEEJADHUR, Aunauth, Les Indiens à l'Ile Maurice. Port Louis, La Typographie Moderne, 1935. 126p.

THORNTON WHITE, L. W. A master plan for Port Louis, Mauritius. South Africa, Cape Times Ltd., 1953. 89p., diag., plans.

UNIENVILLE, Noël, d': L'Ile Menacée. The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 109p., map. illus.

HERCHENRODER, M. *Chairman* Report of the Committee on population, 1953–54. 55p. (Sessional Paper no. 4, 1955).

MAURITIUS. *Central Statistical Office.* Natality and fertility in Mauritius, 1825–1955. 1956. 58p.

HAZAREESINGH, K. A history of Indians in Mauitius, Port Louis. The General Printing Establishment, 1950. 220pp.

SLAVERY

BERNARD, Eugène. Essai sur les nouveaux affranchis de l'Ile Maurice. Maurice, Imp. du Mauricien, 1834. 210p.

NOËL, Karl. La condition matérielle des esclaves à l'Ile de France, période française (1715–1810). *Revue d'Histoire des Colonies,* XL, 3e & 4e trimestre 1954, pp. 303–313.

TOUSSAINT, Auguste, *ed.* Les missions d'Adrien d'Epinay (1830–1834). Port Louis, The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1946. XXXII, 216p.

EDUCATION

MACQUET, Adolphe. L'instruction à l'Ile Maurice, ancienne Ile de France à l'origine de sa colonisation. Port Louis, Engelbrecht & Cie., 1890. 36p.

WARD, W. E. F.: Report on Education in Mauritius. Mauritius, Government Press, 1952. 58p.

Report of the Select Committee on the Ward Report on Education. Mauritius Government Press, 1953. 41p.

NICHOLS, A. E.: A report on secondary education in Mauritius. Mauritius, The Government Printer, 1949, 31, (2)p.

BENEDICT, Burton. Education without opportunity; education, economics and communalism in Mauritius. University of London, Institute of Commonwealth Studies, Reprint no. 4. 15p. (from *Human Relations,* XI, 4(1958), 315–329).

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

ECONOMICS

ECONOMICS

ELLIOT, IVO D. *and* LOUGHNANE, N. G. Financial situation of Mauritius. Report of a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, December, 1931. Presented by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to Parliament by Command of His Majesty, March, 1932. (Cmd. 4034). London H.M. Stationery Office, 1932. 285p., map.

HOOPER, Charles Arthur, *and others*: Report of the Commission of enquiry into unrest on sugar estates in Mauritius, 1937. Mauritius, Government Press, 1938. XXIII, 253p.

LUCE, R. W. Report to the Government of Mauritius on Employment, unemployment and underemployment in the Colony in 1958 together with Report on an investigation into Wages and conditions of employment of labourers and artisans in the Sugar Industry (Sessional Paper No. 7 of 1958).

A time for decision (Sessional Paper No. 8 of 1958).

MOODY, S., *and others* Report of the Commission of Enquiry into the disturbances which occurred in the North of Mauritius in 1943. London, n.d. 81p., 1 map.

COODE *and* PARTNERS Report on harbour facilities and suggested improvements at Port Louis, Mauritius. The Government Printer. 12p., 3 diags.

MAURITIUS. *Central Statistical Office*. The national income and national accounts of Mauritius, 1948–1954. Port Louis, Government Printing, 1956. 33p.

AGRICULTURE AND AGRONOMY

NORTH COOMBES, A. Tea in Mauritius, 1817–1944. *Revue Agricole de l'île Maurice,* vol. XXIII, No. 6, Nov. – Dec. 1944. p. 238–241.

An historical survey of the tea industry.

NORTH COOMBES, G. A. The fibre industry of Mauritius. Port Louis. The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1951. 85p.

MAURITIUS CHAMBER OF AGRICULTURE. The President's report for the year 1953–54. Centenary Number. The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1954. 117p. illus. tabs.

DUPAVILLON, F. Le manguier à l'île Maurice. Esclapon Ltd., ii, 130p.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

SUGARCANE

WALTER, A. The sugar industry of Mauritius: a study in correlation. London, Arthur L. Humphreys, 1910. XVI, 228p.

NORTH COOMBES, A. The Evolution of Sugarcane Culture in Mauritius, with a chapter on the Evolution of the Mauritian Sugar Factory. Mauritius, General Printing, 1937, xv 197, illus., map.

SORNAY, Pierre de. La canne à sucre à l'île Maurice. Paris Challamel, 1920. VIII, 677p., illus., maps.

SORNAY, P. DE, and SORNAY, A. DE: Manuel de la canne à sucre à l'usage des chargés de cours et des éléves des grandes écoles coloniales. Port Louis, The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1952. 279p. 22.5cm.

A revised 2nd edition.

SCIENTIFIC

METEOROLOGY

HERCHENRODER, Marc. La pluie à l'Ile Maurice. l'Etude de soixante années d'observations. Préface de Maxime Kœnig. Maurice, The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1935. 61p.

BOTANY

BAKER, J. G.: Flora of the Mauritius and the Seychelles. London, L. Reeve & Co., 1877, 557p.

VAUGHAN, R. E. *and* WIEHE, P. O.: Studies on the vegetation of Mauritius. *Journal of Ecology*, London. 1937–1947.

HUBBARD, C. E. and VAUGHAN, R. E.: The grasses of Mauritius and Rodriguez. With a foreword by Sir Arthur W. Hill, Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. London, Waterlow & Sons, 1940. 128p., illus.

ZOOLOGY

BAISSAC, J. de B.: Poissons de l'île Maurice. *Proceedings Royal Society of Arts and Sciences of Mauritius*, 1950.

HACHISUKA, M.: The Dodo and kindred birds of the Mascarene Islands. London, Witherby, 1953, 250p., illus.

MAMET, R.: Cococoidea of Mauritius. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1949.

MAMET, R.: Hemiptera of Mauritius. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1957.

ROUNTREE, F. R. G. *and others*: Birds of Mauritius. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1952.

STRICKLAND, H. E. *and* MELVILLE, H. E.: The Dodo and its kindred; or the history, affinities and osteology of the Dodo, Solitaire and other extinct birds of the islands Mauritius,

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

Rodriguez and Bourbon. London, Reeve, Benham and Reeve, 1848. 142p., 9 woodcuts, 16 plates.

VINSON, J.: Lepidoptera of the Mascarene Islands. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1938.

VINSON, J.: Coleoptera of Mauritius and Rodriguez. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1956.

WHEELER, DR. J. F. G. and OMMANNEY, DR. F. D.: Report on the Mauritius—Seychelles fisheries survey, 1948–49. London, H.M.S.O. 1953. 145p.

WILLIAMS, J. R.: Hymenoptera of Mauritius. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1958.

ART

BRADSHAW, T.: Views in the Mauritius, or Isle of France, drawn from nature by T. Bradshaw, and on stone by William Rider, of Leamington; with a memoir of island, and a description of each view. London, James Carpenter & Son, 1832. 40 plates.

LITERATURE

GENERAL

ITHIER, J. J. Wasley. La littérature de langue française à l'Ile Maurice. Paris, Lib. M.Lac, 1930. 288p.

ROSNAY, Edouard Fromet de. Table Ovale — Poètes créoles: anthologie mauricienne; galerie poétique de l'Ile de France, 1803–1897. Port Louis, The Planters Gazette, 1897. 522p.

LITERARY PRODUCTIONS: French

CHAROUX, Clément: L'Ile Maurice au temps des diligences. Port Louis, General Printing and Stationery Co. Ltd., 1932. 81p.

GUEVIN, Charles. Les savanaises, 1856–1866. T.I. and T.II. Port Louis, Typ. Mercantile Record, 1883; The Merchants and Planters Gazette, 1891.

HART, Robert-Edward: Mer Indienne, poèmes. Port Louis, General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1925. 82p.

LAGESSE, Marcelle. La diligence s'éloigne à l'aube. Port Louis, Esclapon, 1958. 252p.

LAGESSE, Marcelle. Le vingt floral au matin. Paris, Julliard, 1960.

L'HOMME, Léoville. Poésies et poèmes. Port Louis, Esclapon, 1927. 142p.

MASSON, Loys: L'étoile et la clef. Paris, Gallimard, 1946. 366p.

SAINT PIERRE, Jacques Henri, Bernardin de. Paul et Virginie.

First published in 1788 and since then often reprinted. The finest French edition is that of Curmer, Paris, 1838. A number of English and American translations are available.

STYLET, [Selmour AHNEE]. Fagots. 2v. Port Louis, Mauritius Printing Cy. Ltd., 1953, 1954. 288p. 330p.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

LITERARY PRODUCTIONS: English

MALIM, Michael. Island of the Swan. London, Longmans, Green & Co. 1952. 232p.

OMMANEY, F. D. The Shoals of Capricorn. London, Spottiswoode, Ballantyne & Co. Ltd., 1952. 322p. illus.

HISTORICAL

EARLY HISTORY

PITOT, Albert. T'Evlandt Mauritius. Esquisses historiques (1598–1710), précédées d'une notice sur la découverte des Mascareignes et suivies d'une monographie du Dodo, des Solitaires de Rodrigues et de Bourbon et de l'Oiseau Bleu. Maurice, Coignet frères & Cie., 1905. 372p.

The only complete history of Mauritius during the Dutch period.

VISDELOU-GUIMBEAU, G. de: La découverte des îles Mascareignes. Port Louis, the General Printing and Stationery Cy Ltd., 1949. 65p., illus.

CHAPUISET LE MERLE, André de. Précis d'histoire de l'Ile Maurice, XVe au XVIIIe siècle, Port Louis, Nouvelle Imprimerie Coopérative, 1950. 225p., illus.; maps.

FRENCH HISTORY

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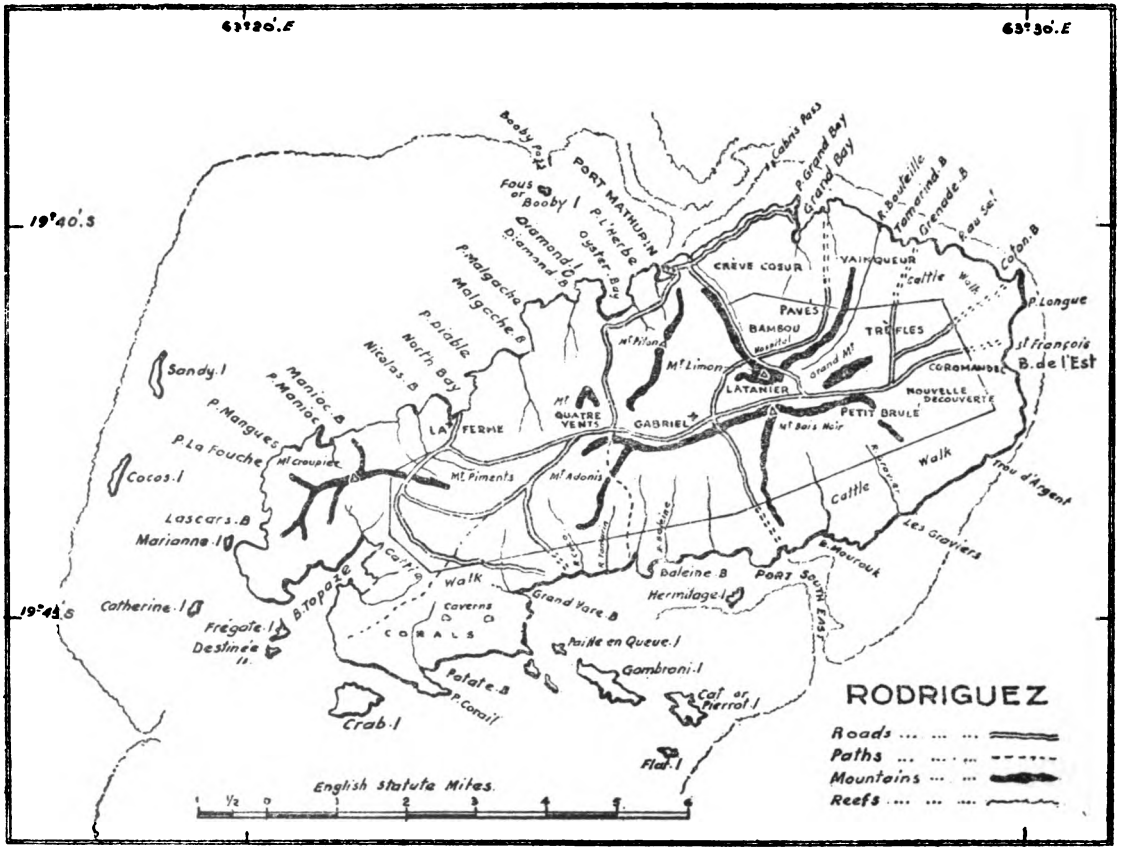
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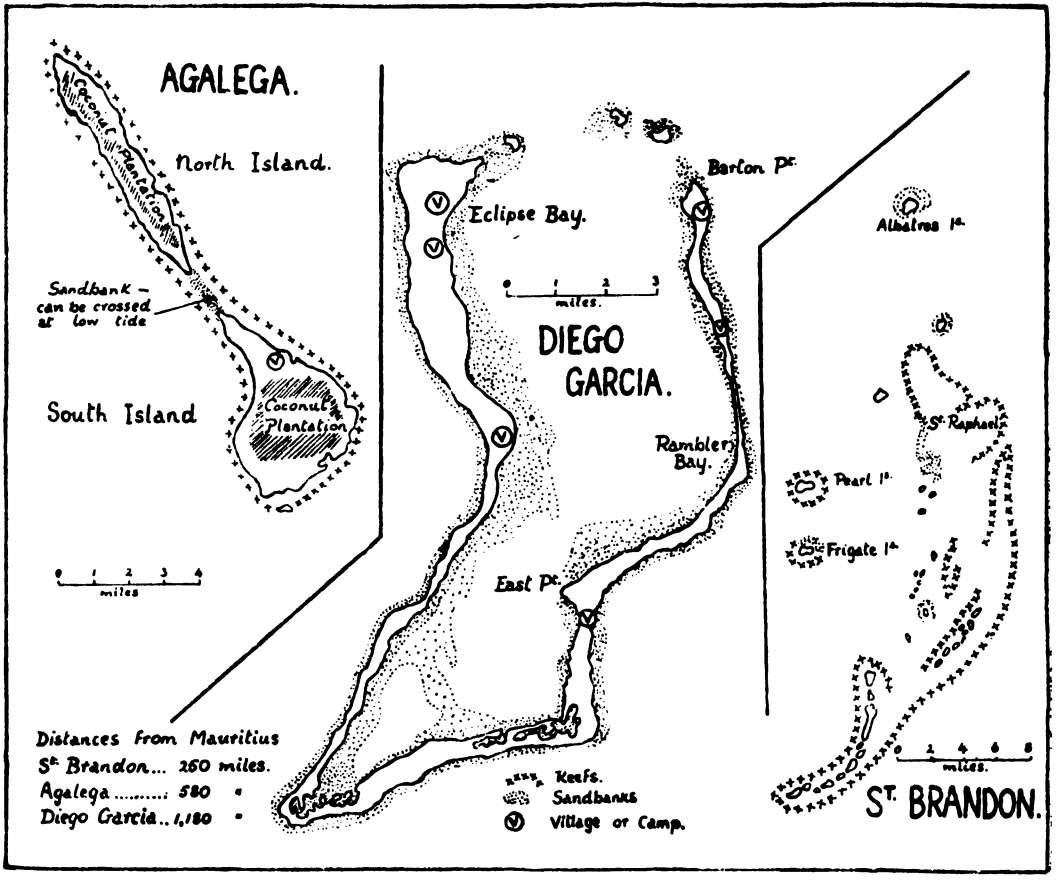
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63°20'.E
63°30'.E
19°40'.S
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Booby Point
Fous or Booby I
PORT MATHURIN
P. L'Herbe
Oyster Bay
Diamond I
Diamond Q
P. Malgache
Malgache B
P. Diable
North Bay
Nicolas B
Sandy I
Manioc B
P. Manioc
P. Mangues
P. La Fouche
Cocos I
Lascars B
Marianne I
Catherine I
Fregate I
Destinée I
B. Topaze
Caverns
CORALS
Crab I
P. Corail
Patate B
Paille en Queue I
Grand Vare B
Gombroni I
Cat or Pierrot I
Flat I
Hermitage I
Baleine B
PORT SOUTH EAST
B. Mouroux
Les Graviers
Trou d'Argent
P. Cabris Nez
P. Grand Bay
Grand Bay
P. Boufeille
Tamarind B
Grenade B
Rau Sel
Colon B
P. Longue
St François
B. de l'Est
CREVE COEUR
VAINQUEUR
PAVES
BAMBOU
Hospital
TREFLES
Mt Pilons
Mt Limon
LATANIER
Grand Mt
COROMANDEL
NOUVELLE DECOUVERTE
PETIT BRULE
Mt Bois Noir
LA FERME
Mt QUATRE VENTS
GABRIEL
Mt Piments
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Roads
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PART I

Review of the Year 1962

GOVERNOR

Sir Colville Deverell, K.C.M.G., C.V.O., O.B.E., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Mauritius and its Dependencies since November 1959 reached the retiring age in February 1962. Accompanied by Lady Deverell, the Governor left the island by air on the 9th July on pre-retirement leave before the expiry of his three-year commission in Mauritius. His successor, Sir John Rennie, K.C.M.G., O.B.E., formerly Resident Commissioner, New Hebrides, arrived in Mauritius by air with Lady Rennie on the 16th September. Sir Colville Deverell was awarded the G.B.E. in the New year Honours, 1963.

GENERAL

Cyclone " Jenny " passed 20 miles North of Mauritius at the end of February. It was a cyclone of severe intensity, but fortunately moved much faster than usual, with the result that stormy winds prevailed for only seven hours. Damage was serious, especially on high ground, and in Port Louis and the North, but could not be compared with the *havoc* caused by the 1960 cyclones. The sugar crop, originally estimated to reach the record figure of 650,000 metric tons, was reduced to 532,000 metric tons. There were twenty fatal casualties and damage to Government property was estimated at 3½ million rupees. The unusual speed of the cyclone, which moved at twenty miles per hour, was the cause of serious losses of fishing boats and pleasure craft.

Mauritius had the honour of acting as host to the XIth Congress of the International Society of Sugar Cane Technologists, held at the Sugar Industry Research Institute at Réduit from the 24th September to the 5th October, 1962.

The Society was instituted in 1924 and since then eleven Congresses have been held in various sugar cane growing countries. The objects of the Society are " to promote the discussion of the technical problems of the sugar cane industry in both field and factory by means of Congresses, held as far as practicable every three years, to foster at all times the free and frank interchange of technical information by medium of publications or other means, and to support worthy research projects designed for the benefit of all ". Delegates from 14 Commonwealth and 20 other countries attended. The Sugar Industry Research

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Institute was responsible for the organization of the Congress the first international meeting, on such a large scale, to be held in Mauritius.

One of the oldest wooden buildings of Port Louis is soon to disappear: the Municipality or Town Hall of Port Louis originally, known as l'Hotel Massé, or Hotel d'Europe, is now beyond repair and will have to be replaced by a modern concrete Town Hall, of which the first stone was laid on the 21st December by His Excellency the Governor. This historical and familiar landmark in the capital situated in Pope Hennessy Street, and facing Desforges Street, one of the main streets of Port Louis, will now suffer the fate of all things too old, after an existence of 150 years.

Political

As a result of the decisions taken at the Constitutional Conference held in London in June and July 1961, the Colonial Secretary assumed the title of Chief Secretary on the 1st January. The Honourable A. H. M. Osman, M.L.C., was appointed the tenth unofficial Minister in the Executive Council, and assumed responsibility in February for the portfolio of Information, Posts and Telegraphs and Telecommunications. The policy of integration of Ministries and Departments was continued and in April the Ministry of Health and Reform Institutions was integrated with the Department of Health.

The three-yearly elections to Village Councils were held on the 2nd September throughout the island and District Councils were subsequently reconstituted. As a result of the enactment of the Local Government Ordinance, 1962, Government servants were no longer allowed to be members of Village Councils, and the Civil Commissioners changed their role from member of District Councils to that of adviser. Two urban by-elections were held to replace Messrs. M. I. Ghanty and D. Bissessur who resigned from the Town Council of Curepipe. Messrs. Cassam Coowar and R. Gujadhur, sponsored by the *Parti Mauricien*, were elected.

The Public Service

Towards the end of the year the Government after considering a number of requests from the Joint Committee of the Police Federation for improvements in the salaries and conditions of service of the non-gazetted ranks of the Police, approved the following:—

(i) An increase in salaries to the rates recommended by the Mauritius Police Commission for the non gazetted officers.

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THE GOVERNOR'S ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE

H.E. Sir John S. Rennie and Lady Rennie greeted by the Speaker, the Honourable H. R. Vaghjee, as they arrive at Government House, Port Louis.

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CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF SUGAR CANE TECHNOLOGISTS

Dr. the Honourable S. Ramgoolam, Chief Minister and Minister of Finance, addressing the Congress at the opening ceremony.

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A scene at The Mauritius Sugar Institute on the occasion of the Congress of the International Society of Sugar Cane Technologists, 1962.

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(ii) An increase in the rate of rent assistance.

(iii) A disturbance allowance payable on transfer from one station to another.

Shortly afterwards, the Government decided to increase the salaries of gazetted officers from Assistant Superintendent to Commissioner and to extend the benefit of disturbance allowance to Assistant Superintendents and Superintendents.

With effect from the 1st November, the date for the salary revision of the non-gazetted ranks of the Police, the Government, which had been considering the revision of salaries of Teachers and Head Teachers in the Primary Schools, decided to increase their salaries and to create a new grade of Deputy Head Teacher.

Economic and Financial

The Bank of Baroda opened a branch in Port Louis on the 14th October, and joined The Mauritius Commercial Bank, The Mercantile Bank and Barclays Bank (D.C.O.) in providing banking and commercial facilities in the island.

The closing of the Colony's accounts for the year 1961-62 showed a deficit of Rs 1.5 million against an estimated surplus of Rs .8 million, expenditure having been overestimated by Rs 1.7 million and revenue overestimated by Rs 4.0 million.

The negotiated price under the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement was £45-15-3d (C.I.F.) per long ton. The gross value (F.O.B.)† of sugar exports was of the order of 262.6 million rupees. The negotiated price for the calendar year 1963 has been fixed at £46-0-10d (C.I.F.) per long ton.

The reconstruction and Development Programme 1960–65 originally provided for expenditure projected at Rs 354 m over the five-year period. Expenditure for 1960–61 and 1961–62 amounted to Rs 45.73 m and Rs 52.05 m respectively, but it is anticipated that there will be a marked increase of expenditure in 1962-63, during which year the major schemes for the provision of a trunk road, sewerage and a new harbour installations will continue while at the same time heavy expenditure in forecast by the Central Housing Authority, for the construction of low cost housing for cyclones victims, and by the Central Electricity Board, with particular emphasis on the construction of a Power Station at Fort Victoria with ancillary high tension transmission lines. The Original Programme provided Rs 84.34 m for the low cost housing programme; in view of reduced demand, this figure has been reduced to Rs 72.2 m but the Secretary of State's agreement has been sought to the maintenance of the ceiling of the Reconstruction and Development Programme at Rs 354 m.

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The principal reason for under expenditure has been lack of executive capacity which has had to be concentrated to a great extent during the past three years upon repair and reconstruction work arising first from the 1960 cyclones and latterly from the 1962 cyclones.

The revised projections for the financing of the Programme are as follows:—

	Rs m
Local Resources	158.5
Colonial Development and Welfare Funds (other than grants for low cost cyclone housing programme)	17.2
Loans and Grants from Colonial Services Vote (other than grants for low cost cyclone housing programme)	28.7
Loans and Grants from H. M. G. for low cost cyclone housing programme	72.2
External sources	50.0
Miscellaneous grants	.3
TOTAL ...	326.9

The hotel industry has been considerably developed with the financial help of the Government. In addition to the Park Hotel at Curepipe there are two beach hotels at Le Morne and Grand'Baie, Vatel, a modern hotel and restaurant, in Curepipe; a first class hotel at Le Chaland was opened in 1962. With increased hotel accommodation the tourist industry has expanded. Progress is bound to be gradual but there can be little doubt that Mauritius is now on the tourist map of the Indian Ocean. The comparatively new hotel industry was successfully put to the test by the International Congress of Sugar Cane Technologists in September and October.

SOCIAL SERVICES

On account of smallpox outbreaks outside Mauritius, a smallpox vaccination campaign was organised. Vaccination, free of charge, was offered to all children in the age group 1-14 and to persons in the Medical Services and other who according to the nature of their duties were more exposed to contamination e.g. officers of the Customs and Harbour Departments.

Alterations and improvements to hospitals have continued throughout the year. At Civil Hospital the construction of a new kitchen and stores block was completed except for a number of ancillary works. At Brown Sequard Hospital a kitchen block has been completed. The steward's quarters at the Mahebourg Hos-

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HAVOC CAUSED BY CYCLONE 'JENNY'

Inside view of Immaculée Conception Roman Catholic Church.

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pital have been converted into a maternity ward. A new ward is being constructed at Flacq Hospital. Plans have been prepared for the construction of a health centre at Rose Belle and a dispensary at Old Grand Port and for the new medical stores at Plaine Lauzun.

The infantile mortality rate (60.1) and the crude death rate (9.3) are the lowest on record.

Help from the World Health Organisation continued to be received in respect of the schemes for the eradication of Malaria and Tuberculosis.

A Family Allowance Scheme, which was one of the recommendations contained in the Titmuss Report, was introduced in January 1962. Under the Scheme families with three children under 14 years of age are eligible for Rs 15 per month.

During the post cyclone years the Central Housing Authority and the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund have initiated housing schemes and for these schemes the Health Department has laid down the requirements from the aspect of sanitation.

Public Utilities

The construction of a new double carriage-way trunk road between Phœnix and Port Louis, for which a contract was let in December 1959, was completed during the year and both carriageways were opened to the public. The road which is 7½ miles long became a necessity to speed up and increase the safety of traffic between Port Louis and the up country townships. It will also be a great asset when the railways are closed and sugar is transported wholly by road. The access road from the trunk road to the docks for the transport of sugar is now under construction.

At the beginning of the year Sessional Paper No. 1 of 1962, laying down the Government's policy for the closing down of the Railways by stages, was laid before the Legislative Council. An extensive programme of road improvements and of strengthening of bridges is now being implemented.

A major development in the public telephone service took place on 8th December when the Port Louis and Rose Hill telephone exchanges were converted to automatic working. The telephone service had been overloaded for some years and the commissioning of the new exchanges, coupled with the provision of some 300 extra circuits between Port Louis, Rose Hill, Vacoas and Curepipe has led to considerable improvement in the service. There are now 6,645 telephones connected to the automatic system, out of a total of 9,973 in service at the end of the year.

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Total production of electricity for the year amounted to 76.9 million units, representing an increase of 31 per cent over 1961. Thermal generation accounted for 33.4 per cent of the total, whilst purchases of electricity from Sugar Estates accounted for 11.5 per cent. Hydro genertaion amounted to 55.1 per cent of the total, with the result that generation costs were much lower than the previous year. The reconstruction of Cascade Cecile Hydro Station is proceeding satisfactorily, and it will be commissioned before the end of 1963. Civil works on the construction of Fort Victoria Thermal Station have started and it is expected that this station will be commissioned early in 1964.

Dependencies

The Family Allowance Ordinance (No. 2 of 1962) was applied to Rodrigues and payments were effected as from July. Some 1,360 claimants were paid.

The island was visited by Dr. H. Fougère, Canadian fisheries expert, who examined the salt fish industry and its possibilities of extension.

Early in April Rodrigues was seriously affected by cyclone "Maud", which curved back sharply on to the island after having passed its meridian. Major damage was caused to Government buildings, private huts and houses, and to fishng boats. The crops were lost, but with help received from Mauritius, in the form of additional funds and building materials, most of the damage was made good within a few months. As usual the population showed a high morale and courage in adversity.

The lessees of Agalega and the Chagos Archipelago transferred their leases to a new Company, Chagos Agalega Limited, registered in Seychelles. Some minor administrative and financial difficulties resulted from the transfer, but most of these had been solved by the end of the year under review.

Honours

Her Majesty the Queen was graciously pleased to approve the following appointments and awards on the occasion of the New Year and on Her Birthday:—

New Year

The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:

Commander: Joseph Georges Espitalier-Noel
Officer : Marie Michel Auguste Toussaint, B.A., Ph.D.
Member : Christopher Strudwick, A.R.I.C.S.
Edwin de Robillard.

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BIRTHDAY

Knight Bachelor

RAMPERSAD NEERUNJUN, O.B.E., Q.C.

The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire

Officers : JEAN FREDERIC EDOUARD BRUNEL, M.D.
REVEREND CANON GORDON WILLIAM McAVAN, A.K.C.

Member : MARIE DELAITRE.

Colonial Police Medal

JOSEPH RENAUD CARVER
EXPEDIT QUIRIN
GOOLAM AHMED KHOYRATTY
LUCIEN AFFOUYE.

Certificates and Badges of Honour

His Excellency the Governor approved the following awards:

NEW YEAR

FRANKLIN DARWIN APPADOO
TAIJOOSING ACHAMEESING
LOUIS SELGNIARD BANCHE
FRANÇOIS JOSEPH GABRIEL CADET DE FONTENAY.

BIRTHDAY

HEETALL CHUMMUN
JOSEPH IGNACE PHILIPPE
OLGA RAMMA.

List of Visitors

MR. C. ORR-EWING, O.B.E., M.P., Civil Lord of the Admiralty.
DR. T. BALOGH, Fellow of Balliol College, Oxford, Chairman of the Commission of Enquiry into the Sugar Industry.
C. J. BENNETT, ESQ., Chartered Accountant, Member of Commission of Enquiry into the Sugar Industry.
PROFESSOR MARIUS VALKHOFF, Dean of Faculty of Romane Languages, Witwatersrand University, Johannesburg.
MR. MAXWELL FRY, C.B.E. AND MISS JANE DREW, Consulting Architects.

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DR. FERDINAND FRIEDENSBURG, former Mayor of Berlin; President of the German Institute for economic research; Member of the Bundestag and Professor at Technical Institute of Berlin University.

DR. FERDINAND FRIEDENSBURG, Ambassador German Federal Republic in Madagascar, Consul for Mauritius.

MR. USAKLIGIL, Deputy Director of International Labour Organisation.

MR. G. WELLS, Director of a Dancing Academy in London.

DR. J. W. COOK, F.R.S., Vice Chancellor of Exeter University.

DR. O. A. AJOSE, M.D., D.P.H., Vice Chancellor of Nigeria University.

MR. ABDUL GHAYUR, Commissioner for Pakistan in British East Africa.

MR. A. N. GALSWORTHY, C.M.G., Assistant Under Secretary.

MR. HENRY MARTIN SMITH, C.B.E., H. M. Chief Inspector of Fire Services.

MR. LEONARD BLAKE, Examiner of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music.

MR. PAUL LONGUET, Malagasy Minister of Finance.

MR. NIGEL HESELTINE, F. A. O. Representative in Madagascar.

MR. J. J. CEBE-HABENSKY, UNO Representative in Madagascar.

MR. R. G. SNIDER, Co-ordinator of the International Indian Ocean Expedition.

MR. A. PIFER, Carnegie Corporation.

MR. J. L. CHAPMAN, Australian Trade Commissioner, South Africa.

MR. C. W. IMPEY, Federal Trade Commissioner, Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland at Johannesburg.

MR. W. M. WOODHOUSE, Secretary of State's Adviser on Housing.

SIR ALFRED SAVAGE, K.C.M.G., Crown Agent.

MR. KNIPERS, UNO consultant on Tourism.

VISITING SHIPS

The Colony was visited by the Frigates H.M.S. Owen in February and H.M.S. Jaguar in March; by the Royal Netherlands submarine Zeeleeuw in July, by the French Training Cruiser Jeanne d'Arc in January and by the Ethiopian warship Ethiopia in September.

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PART II

Chapter I: Population

A census of the population, which was taken during the night of the 30th June—1st July 1962, gave the following preliminary results:

Males ...	...	342,165
Females	...	338,135
TOTAL	...	680,300

The population of Mauritius as at the 31st December, 1962, was estimated therefrom at 691,035.

The natural increase, that is the excess of births over deaths in 1962 was 19,942, a number which is nearly 7 times the corresponding average for the five pre-war years (1935–39).

Civilian departures from the Colony exceeded arrivals by 887.

The average density of the population for the Island was 945 per square mile (calculated on the mid-year population).

BIRTHS

The number of live births during the year 1962 was 26,267 an increase of 175 on the number for 1961, but an increase of 1,965 on the yearly average number of births for the ten years ending with 1961:

Males	*Females*	*Total*	*Male births per 1,000 female births*
13,395	12,872	26,267	1,041

The following are the birth rates (per 1,000 of the mid-year population) for the last six years:

1957	*1958*	*1959*	*1960*	*1961*	*1962*
43.1	40.8	38.5	39.6	39.8	38.6

Still-births, which are not included as either births or deaths, numbered 1,841 (1,001 males, 840 females), corresponding to a rate of 7.0 per hundred live-births, as compared with 1,963 still-births, corresponding to a rate of 7.5 in 1961.

DEATHS

Deaths registered in Mauritius numbered 6,325, corresponding to a rate of 9.3 per 1,000 of the population. The month of maximum mortality was January with 772 deaths:

	Males	*Females*	*Total*
Number of deaths in 1962 ...	3,255	3,070	6,325
Rate per 1,000 of population	9·5	9·1	9·3

The average death rate for the period 1952–61 was 12.8.

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Infantile Mortality

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age during 1962 was 1,579 (1,618 in 1961). This number was considerably lower than in the quinquennial period 1944–48.

The following table shows the infantile mortality rate (i.e., the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live-births):—

Year	*Rate*
1944–1948 (average)	154·9
1953	93·5
1954	81·1
1955	67·2
1956	66·0
1957	75·1
1958	67·4
1959	62·5
1960	69·5
1961	62·0
1962	60.1

Marriages

The following table gives the number of marriages for the last five years:

1958	*1959*	*1960*	*1961*	*1962*
3,169	3,297	3,113	3,481	3,893

Movement of the Civil Population

	Males	*Females*	*Total*
Arrivals ...	9,282	5,906	15,188
Departures...	9,887	6,188	16,075

These figures include the very small figure of engaged or discharged seamen, and emigrants and immigrants to and from the dependencies.

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Chapter 2: Occupations, Wages and Labour Organization

EMPLOYMENT

An analysis of employment in selected industries in September 1962. under main industrial groups, is shown in the table below:—

Code	Industry	Number of persons employed			
		Men	*Women*	*Young persons**	*Total*
0	Agriculture	44,467	20,766	4,289	69,522
1	Mining and quarrying ...	86	31	4	121
2–3	Manufacturing	4,910	842	340	6,092
4	Construction	4,215	14	29	4,258
5	Electricity	953	57	21	1,031
6	Commerce	1,445	155	3	1,603
7	Transport, storage and communications	3,944	23	—	4,017
8	Services	—	—	—	22,287
				TOTAL ...	108,931

The main industry of the island is the growing of sugar as a plantation crop. Some 67,000 workers are employed in this industry during the harvest, or "crop" season, from July to December, and 55,000 during the intercrop season.

Secondary industries include sack-making (from locally produced aloe fibre), the manufacture of furniture, matches, clothing and footwear, printing, sawmilling, charcoal-burning, production of lime, and recovery of salt by the evaporation of sea water.

The number of persons registered by the Employment Service during 1962 was as follows:—

Month	*Persons registered*
January	3,345
February	3,559
March	13,597
April	4,347
May	3,942
June	4,058
July	4,226
August	3,696
September	3,719
October	3,343
November	3,382
December	3,460

A total of 4,519 placings were effected during the same period as compared to 1,688 during the previous year.

*i.e. persons under the age of 18 years

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Wages and Hours of Work

The range of average daily wages of the principal categories of workers in the various industries is shown in the following table:—

Category of workers	Average daily wages Rupees		Average No. of hours actually worked per week	
	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum
Clerical	8.70*	22.71*	39.4	45.0
Labourers	3.60	5.20	38.0	45.0
Sirdars, foremen, contremaitres ...	5.05	13.55	40.0	49.7
Drivers (vehicle)	5.70	8.00	33.5	58.0
Bus conductors	7.0		51.8	
Mechanics and fitters	6.00	8.10	43.5	59.6
Electricians	4.55	10.00	48.0	50.2
Carpenters and joiners	6.60	7.45	44.9	46.5
Masons	6.40	7.75	46.0	47.1
Pan boilers	5.60		53.2	
Drivers (plant)	4.42		49.1	
Watchmen	4.30	5.55	50.4	118.0

The daily wage rates and weekly hours of work of manual workers in government employment were as follows:—

	Maximum wages	Minimum wages	No. of hrs. worked per week
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	
Foremen	13.10	9.90	45
Artisans	9.90	6.40	45
Hospital servants ...	6.20	5.20	45
Labourers	5.20	4.20	45

Some Government departments work from 9 a.m. to 8.30 p.m. on week days with a half-hour break for lunch, and from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. Others have adopted the five-day week, and work from 8.45 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a half-hour break. Business offices follow more or less the same practice.

Ministry of Labour and Social Security

The measure integrating the former Labour Department and Public Assistance Department into the Ministry of Labour and Social Security was brought into force, and during the year the labour side of the Ministry's activities was organised into four branches, each reporting direct to Headquarters of the Ministry:—

The Labour Inspectorate, under the Principal Labour Officer, with two Senior Labour Officers and an Industrial Relations Officer;

The Employment Service, under the Controller, Employment Service;

The Factory Inspectorate, under the Factory Inspector, and The Registry of Associations, under the Registrar of Associations.

---

* monthly earnings divided by 26

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The former Labour Commissioner now acts as Labour Adviser to the Minister, his statutory powers and duties being transferred to the appropriate Head of Branch or to the Permanent Secretary. The Assistance Commissioner acts as an officer of the Ministry, the activities of his department being described in Chapter 7.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Security is thus the latest inheritor of an administrative tradition which originated with the office of the Protector of Slaves in early colonial days; was continued by the Bureau of the Protector of Immigrants; and passed in due course to the Poor Law Commissioner. When the organised immigration of indentured labour had ceased and modern legislation began to be enacted to regulate conditions of employment and the settlement of industrial disputes, the tradition was taken over by a Director of Labour with a specialist staff, the immediate predecessors of the Labour Commissioner and the Labour Department.

The functions of the Ministry include the uniform administration of legislation relating to labour, which is kept constantly under review to give effect to International Labour Conventions which have been applied to the Colony, and in the other ways to keep abreast of modern developments in the field of labour, employment and trade union legislation.

Frequent inspections of places of work, including factories, are carried out, and camps in which estate workers are housed are also inspected. Where necessary, proceedings are taken in the Industrial Court for offences against the labour legislation. Associated with this work is the giving of advice and assistance to trade unions in the conduct of their affairs, and the promotion of the settlement of trade disputes through conciliation and other appropriate means.

The employment Service is being developed and extended to provide the maximum information on employment opportunities, a full placing service at Employment Exchanges, co-operation with education and training authorities and the regular collection and publication of statistics relating to labour.

The Registry of Associations maintains a statutory registration of trade unions and superannuation funds, supervising the activities by periodical inspection of their membership records and accounts, and furnishes an important centre of reference in disputes as to recognition of unions. Friendly associations are also registered at the Registry of Associations.

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Trade Unions

There were at the end of June, 1962, sixty nine trade unions consisting of 34 associations of employees in private employment, 23 of government servants, 10 of employers and 2 registered federations. The total membership on the rolls was 37,749 of which 35,802 were compliance members.

The larger workers' trade unions are:—

The Plantation Workers' Union (13,956 members)
The Agricultural Workers' Union (4,596 members)
The Government Servants' and Other Employees' Association (1,850 members)
The Government Labour Power Union (1,363 members)
The Artisans and General Workers' Union (995 members)
The General Port, Harbour and Other Workers' Union (929 members)
The Union of Road Transport Employees (287 members)
The Electrical and Other Workers' Union (877 members)
The Transport and General Workers' Union (416 members)
The Building Industry, Engineering and Other Workers' Union (572 members)
The Artisans Taxi Drivers and Other Manual Labourers' Union (548 members)
The Government and Non-Government Employees' Union (1,341 members)

The larger employers' trade unions are:—

The Mauritius Butchery Owners' Associations (77 members)
The Mauritius Tobacco Producers' Syndicate (51 members)
The Mauritius Cane Growers' Association (40 members)
The Mauritius Sugar Producers' Association (21 members)

Labour Disputes and Settlements

Only one labour dispute involving a stoppage of work was reported during the year. This was of transport and building workers, who staged a one-day strike in support of their demand for recognition of their Union.

Workmen's Compensation

Compensation is payable to injured workmen in accordance with the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance (Cap. 220, as subsequently amended).

Social Security

All monthly-employed workers aged eighteen years or over engaged in the sugar industry contribute to the Sugar Industry Pension Fund, set up under Ordinance No. 42 of 1955. Other

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statutory funds are operated under the provisions of the Employees Superannuation Fund Ordinance, No. 28 of 1954, and the Tobacco Board Employees Provident Fund Ordinance, No. 71 of 1950.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

As a supplement to the training normally given in industry, a rapid training scheme was started by a French expert under technical assistance provided by the French Government. Two courses of thirty weeks each were held and for each course there were classes in carpentry and masonry. Eleven trainees completed a course of training during the year and were placed in industry.

EMIGRATION

As a result of the coming into force of the Commonwealth Immigrants Act, 1962, the Ministry of Labour in the United Kingdom issued employment vouchers to 137 Mauritian applicants.

Five applicants for nursing training recommended by the Ministry of Labour were accepted by hospitals in Great Britain.

Seventy-one skilled workers left the colony for employment overseas.

FACTORIES

The total number of factories registered under the Factories Ordinance, 1946, was 395 on 31st December, 1962, including 23 sugar factories. This represents a nett increase of 14 over the previous year.

LEGISLATION

The main body of labour legislation is contained in the following substantive enactments and their related subsidiary legislation:—

The Boilers Ordinance	Cap. 209
The Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Ordinance	Cap. 211
The Employment and Labour Ordinance	Cap 214
The Recruitment of Workers Ordinance	Cap. 218
The Safety of Dockers Ordinance	Cap. 219
The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance	Cap. 220
The Apprenticeship Ordinance	No. 13 of 1946
The Factories Ordinance	No. 42 of 1946
The Employment Exchanges Ordinance	No. 67 of 1947
The Registration of Associations Ordinance	No. 45 of 1949
The Employees Superannuation Fund Ordinance ...	No. 28 of 1954
The Trade Union Ordinance	No. 36 of 1954
The Trade Disputes Ordinance	No. 37 of 1954
The Regulation of Wages and Conditions of Employment Ordinance	No. 71 of 1961

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No ordinance relating to Labour matters was enacted during the year.

Government Notices relating to labour matters were published during the year as follows:—

No. 26 of 1962	The Regulation of Wages and Conditions of Employment Ordinance 1961—Regulations made by the Minister under Sections 14 and 17.
No. 36 of 1962	Wages Council (Distributive Trades) Order 1962.
No. 42 of 1962	Wages Council (Distributive Trades) (Amendment) Order 1962.
No. 52 of 1962	Wages Council (Messengers) Order 1962.
No. 87 of 1962	Wages Council (Catering Industry) Order 1962.
No. 88 of 1962	Wages Council (Messengers) (Amendment) Order 1962.
No. 89 of 1962	Wages Council (Distributive Trades) (Amendment No. 2) Order 1962.
No. 98 of 1962	Wages Council (Messengers) (Amendment No. 2) Order 1962.
No. 99 of 1962	Wages Council (Distributive Trades) (Amendment No. 3) Order 1962.
No. 101 of 1962	Wages Council (Catering Industry) (Amendment) Order 1962.

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Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

Revenue and Expenditure

The following tables give a comparison under the main heads of revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the years ended 30th June, 1939, 1961 and 1962.

Current Revenue

Main Head	Year ended 30th June		
	1939	*1961*	*1962*
	Rs	*Rs*	*Rs*
I. Direct Taxes	1,036,451	43,436,904	38,617,916
II. Indirect Taxes	11,411,317	82,846,342	95,012,979
III. Receipts from Public Utilities ...	1,390,767	8,126,319	8,848,200
IV. Receipts from Public Services ...	1,082,113	6,974,908	5,123,139
V. Livestock Feed Factory ...	—	—	—
VI. Rental of Government Property...	229,221	1,339,413	1,405,835
VII. Interest and Royalties	486,474	4,001,956	5,557,439
TOTAL ...	15,636,343	146,725,842	154,565,508

Capital Revenue

L. Transfer from Recurrent Budget	—	7,500,000	12,000,000
LI. Capital Receipts, Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes	15,858	4,198,782	8,685,214
LII. Sale of Property	329	9,615	12,600
LIII. Loans	—	12,553,016	11,962,505
LIV. Miscellaneous	—	275,751	199,384
LV. Grants	—	10,733,333	5,446,487
LVI. Interest on Investments	—	710,132	627,120
Repayment of Loans and Advances	2,198,308	—	—
TOTAL ...	2,214,495	35,980,629	38,933,310

Current Expenditure

Main Vote	Year ended 30th June		
	1939	*1961*	*1962*
	Rs	*Rs*	*Rs*
1—1. Governor	82,659	220,916	221,421
2. Judicial	402,390	1,320,036	1,381,391
3. Legislature	12,889	668,347	658,799
4. Attorney General's Office ...	99,564	260,729	272,946
5. Audit	79,185	368,841	389,592
6. Public Service Commission ...	—	157,979	142,995
7. Chief Secretary's Office ...	88,893	1,425,803	1,026,200
8. Central Information Office ...	—	307,484	294,109
9. Defence	935,903	1,179,892	1,415,465
Carried forward ...	1,701,483	5,910,027	5,802,918

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Main Vote	Year ended 30th June 1939	1961	1962
	Rs	Rs	Rs
Brought forward ...	1,701,483	5,910,027	5,802,918
10. District Administration ...	—	250,389	267,587
11. Ecclesiastical	211,914	682,814	592,331
12. Fire Services	—	941,768	1,023,379
13. Mauritius Broadcasting Service and Globe Reuter News Service	—	520,803	581,285
14. Police	970,903	7,251,759	7,484,080
15. Printing Department... ...	107,772	725,825	810,371
16. Rodrigues	—	2,126,904	2,685,380
17. Police Service Commission ...	—	45,214	45,689
2—1. Ministry of Finance	—	364,934	6,088,232
Accountant General	197,112	5,132,572	—
2. Central Statistical Office ...	—	261,687	446,366
2a. Miscellaneous	1,107,217	—	—
3. Contributions	—	7,500,000	12,000,000
4. Customs and Excise	—	2,207,448	3,105,393
5. Income Tax	—	500,855	549,056
5a. Customs, Harbour, Port and Marine	613,206	—	—
6. Public Debt	2,292,014	8,600,264	8,986,101
7. Public Service Pensions ...	1,695,428	9,443,598	9,590,430
8. Registrar General	113,897	296,940	307,474
3—1. Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources	—	131,636	130,771
2. Agriculture	542,286	5,280,264	4,446,642
3. Forests	203,331	2,214,547	2,413,812
4—1. Ministry of Works and Internal Communications	—	160,592	3,012,993
Architectural	—	334,004	—
2. Posts and Telegraphs ...	322,521	2,003,660	2,203,073
Public Works and Surveys Establishment	340,007	3,217,169	—
3. Works Annually Recurrent ...	1,039,379	7,537,721	8,377,450
4. Railways...	765,444	2,073,407	402,776
5. Road Traffic Licensing Authority	—	182,334	206,453
5—1. Ministry of Industry, Commerce and External Communications	—	440,826	438,920
2. Civil Aviation	—	538,830	656,714
3. Granary	79,421	272,715	271,320
4. Harbour and Quays	—	1,382,782	1,464,253
5. Meteorology	41,543	403,358	469,230
6. Telecommunications	178,248	2,276,078	2,418,584
6—1. Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs ...	—	251,703	20,655,161
2. Archives	—	103,916	106,423
Education	1,441,412	19,658,525	—
3. Mauritius Institute	17,115	130,355	131,351
Carried forward	13,981,653	101,358,223	108,171,998

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Main Vote	Year ended 30th June 1939 Rs	1961 Rs	1962 Rs
Brought forward ...	13,981,653	101,358,223	108,171,998
7—1. Ministry of Health and Reform Institutions	—	129,112	145,648
2. Health	1,477,202	15,599,462	17,426,996
3. Prisons and Industrial School	178,741	1,387,814	1,518,552
4. Social Welfare	- -	513,318	597,964
8—1. Ministry of Labour and Social Security	—	157,286	246,877
2. Labour	770,307	548,813	4,776,390
3. Public Assistance	—	16,618,739	18,078,973
9—1. Ministry of Local Government and Co-operative Development	—	143,880	151,258
2. Co-operative Societies	—	228,883	238,308
3. Local Government	- -	3,537,707	4,064,930
10—1. Ministry of Housing, Lands and Town and Country Planning	—	569,373	576,253
Central Housing Authority ...	—	20,711	—
Office of the Minister of Works and Tourism	- -	—	- -
11 - 1. Ministry of Information, Posts and Telegraphs and Telecommunications	—	—	51,340
TOTAL	16,407,903	140,813,321	156,045,487
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE			
Public Works Non-Recurrent ...	228,204	20,096,740	—
Other Works	—	6,435,086	—
30. Loans	—	—	17,101,159
31. Other Capital Expenditure ...	—	19,202,342	34,946,494
32. Reserve	—	—	—
33. Redemption of Loans	—	605	66
TOTAL EXPENDITURE ...	228,204	45,734,774	52,047,719

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PUBLIC DEBT

The Public Debt of the Colony on the 30th June, 1962, was Rs 152,150,916. Against this liability there was an accumulated Sinking Fund of Rs 18,667,283.

Local loan issues accounted for Rs 67,071,200 of the Public Debt as detailed below:—

	Rs
Agricultural Loan (No. 1) 1937	1,500,000
Agricultural Loan (No. 2) 1937	1,600,000
Mauritius Development and Welfare Loan 1971–81 ...	3,072,000
Development (General Purposes) Loan 1964–74	14,448,000
Mauritius Tap Loan	45,951,200
Cyclone and Drought Insurance Board—Interest Free Loan	500,000
TOTAL ...	67,071,200

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ASSETS

THE MAIN HEA
THE

Customs :—

Import Duties

Export Duties

Excise duty on Rum
alcoholic bev

Tobacco Excise ..

Licence Duties ..

Income Tax, (Comp
Corporate) ..

Income Tax (Others

Tax on Sweepstakes

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DS OF TAXATION AND IR YIELDS

	Rs
... ...	42,877,813
... ...	12,805,198
(Spirits, liquors and erages)	15,405,088
... ...	8,409,868
... ...	3,131,013
anies and Bodies	16,757,098
)	19,274,136
and Lotteries ...	1,718,248
TOTAL ...	120,378,462

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The National Income and Depreciation Figure for 1961 was Calculated by the Central Statistical Office to be Approximately Rs 705,000,000

Gross National Product Industrial Origin	*Rs (millions)*	%
1. Agriculture, forestry, hunting and fishing ...	182	25·8
2. Mining and Quarrying..	1	0·1
3. Manufacture	131	18·6
4. Construction	50	7·1
5. Electricity, water and sanitary services ...	14	2·0
6. Transportation, Storage and Communication ...	97	13·8
7. Wholesale and Retail Trade	73	10.3
8. Banking, Insurance and Real Estate	14	2·0
9. Ownership of dwellings	50	7·1
10. Public Administration and Defence	27	3·8
11. Services	71	10·1
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (AT FACTOR COST)	710	100·7
Plus factor income from rest of the world ...	5	0·7
GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT (AT FACTOR COST)	705	100·0

National Income and Depreciation	*Rs (millions)*	%
1. Compensation of employees	407	57·7
2. Income from farms, professions and other unincorporated enterprises received by households	96	13·6
3. Income from property received by households and private non-profit institutions	90	12·8
4. Saving of corporations	−88	−12·5
5. Direct taxes on corporations	20	2·8
6. General Government income from property and entrepreneurship ...	13	1·8
7. *Less* Interest on public debt	− 6	− 0·8
8. *Less* Interest on consumers' debt	− 3	− 0·4
NATIONAL INCOME AND DEPRECIATION	705	100·0

Gross National Expenditure Composition	*Rs (millions)*	%
1, Private consumption expenditure on goods and services	568	80·6
2. General Government consumption expenditure on goods and services	102	14·4
3. Gross domestic fixed capital formation of private enterprises ...	100	14·2
4. Gross domestic fixed capital formation of Government and public enterprises	47	6·7
5. Net exports of goods and services	- 15	−2·1
6. Net factor income payments from rest of the world	5	0·7
7. GROSS NATIONAL EXPENDITURE AT MARKET PRICES	797	113·1
8. *Less* Indirect Taxes ...	−93	−13·2
9. *Plus* Subsidies	+ 1	+ 0·1
GROSS NATIONAL EXPENDITURE AT FACTOR COST	705	100·0

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Comparative Figures of Gross National Product 1953–59

Year	Gross National Product at factor cost Rs million	Increase or decrease on 1953 per cent	Resident Population 31st Dec. in each year (thousand)	Gross National product per head Rs
1953 ...	566	—	525	1,078
1954 ...	573	+ 1.2	539	1,063
1955 ...	591	+ 4.4	560	1,055
1956 ...	627	+10.8	579	1,083
1957 ...	646	+14.1	597	1,082
1958 ...	638	+12.7	614	1,039
1959 ...	683	+20.7	631	1,082
1960 ...	559	− 1·2	649	861
1961 ...	705	+24.6	691	1,020

Customs Tariff

The present tariff which is based on the S.I.T.C. was thoroughly revised during the year with a view to implementiyng a recommendation of the Mead's report in affording help and encouragement to local secondary industries. Important rebates are afforded on raw materials imported by registered industries and duties at protective rates are levied on certain manufactured articles.

Provision exists in the tariff for the imposition of preferential rates of duty on imports from the U.K. and certain other scheduled territories subject to the production of supporting evidence of value and origin in the form of a prescribed combined certificate.

Export duties are levied on sugar and molasses, and in addition there are small duties imposed on goods exported from bond, goods in transit and goods reshipped after being landed from distressed vessels.

Package Tax

A package tax at variable low rates is levied under the package Tax Ordinance No. 32 of 1951 on all goods imported and landed in the colony.

Excise Duties

Excise duties are leviable on Colonial spirits (rum), country liquor (Mauritius Fruit Wine), tobacco, matches, spirits used in the manufacture of denatured spirits (except for power purposes), vinegar, tinctures and drugs and perfumed spirits. The consumption of rum during the year showed a slight increase over the figures of the previous year. On the other hand, the upward trend in the revenue collected in respect of country liquor has been maintained.

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Stamp Duties

Stamp duties are of three kinds:

Schedule " A " to the stamps Ordinance (Cap. 160, as subsequently amended), specifies the instruments or writings which are subject to a duty in proportion to the size of paper used. The tariff from 30 cents to Rs 1.80.

Schedule " B " specifies the instruments or writings which are subject to a fixed stamp duty. The amounts vary from 10 cents to Rs 18.

Schedule " C " specifies the instruments or writings which are subject to an *ad valorem* duty. These include Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes, Policies of Insurance, Debentures. The duties are mainly on a sliding scale.

The Stamp Duties collected in respect of impressed paper during the financial 1961-62 amounted to Rs 1,101,257.

Income Tax

The Income Tax is imposed by the provisions of the Income Tax Ordinance, 1950, as subsequently amended.

Various deductions, including capital allowances, are provided by the Ordinance and in the case of individuals, the chargeable income is arrived at after deducting personal reliefs and allowances.

The following schedule shows the rates of tax payable by individuals:

	Chargeable Income Rs		*Rate of Tax* %
For every rupee of the first	5,000	...	10
For every rupee of the next	5,000	...	15
do. do.	5,000	...	20
do. do.	5,000	...	30
do. do.	5,000	...	40
do. do.	10,000	...	50
do. do.	15,000	...	60
Remainder of the chargeable income		...	70

The rate of tax applicable to companies is 40 per cent of the amount of chargeable income.

Collection in the year 1961-62 amounted to Rs 36,031,234 as compared with Rs 41,371,113 in 1960-61.

Death Duty

Duty is payable on the value of the property accruing to each beneficiary at a rate dependent upon the degree of relationship to the deceased and the net value of such property, without aggregation of the whole estate.

The duty collected during 1962 amounted to Rs 1,092,416.18 compard with Rs 871,791.16 in 1961.

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Local Authorities Finances

The undermentioned table gives comparative figures of revenue and expenditure of the four urban local authorities for the last financial year:—

Local Authority	*Financial Year*	*Revenue Rs*	*Expenditure Rs*
Municipality of Port Louis (excluding Housing Scheme)	1962	7,129,402	6,638,329
Town Council of Beau Bassin—Rose Hill (excluding Housing Scheme) ...	1961–62	1,358,525	1,408,905
Town Council of Quatre Bornes (excluding Housing Scheme) ...	1961–62	1,024,761	1,110,957
Town Council of Curepipe (excluding Housing Scheme)	1961–62	1,758,516	1,838,639

District and Village Councils

The four District Councils established under Ordinance No. 76 of 1951 receive subsidies and grants from the Government which are partly allocated to the Village Councils, according to estimates approved by the District Councils. In addition to any taxation which may be imposed by the Village Councils, the District Councils have the right to levy taxes which do not apply to any particular village, such as advertisement and placard tax and entertainment tax. The total estimates of expenditure for the existing 114 Village Councils amounted to approximately Rs 960,000 and the total revenue including subsidies for scavenging roads and cemeteries, to Rs 1,100,000. Revenue from entertainment tax totalled Rs 110,000.

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Chapter 4: Currency and Banking

Currency

The local unit of currency is the Mauritius Rupee, which is sub-divided into 100 cents. The rupee is equivalent to 1s. 6d. sterling.

The notes in circulation are of denominations of Rs 25, Rs 10 and Rs 5. There is in addition a Rs 1,000 note which is legal tender only between the local banks and the Government.

The coins in circulation are the following:

Cupro-Nickel: One Rupee, Half-Rupee, Quarter-Rupee and Ten Cents.

Bronze: 5 Cents, 2 Cents and 1 Cent.

The value of currency in circulation on the 30th June for the last three financial years is given hereunder:—

	1960	*1961*	*1962*
	Rs	*Rs*	*Rs*
Notes	64,605,000	68,245,000	68,955,000
Coins	4,038,000	4,498,378	4,288,878
Total	68,643,000	72,743,378	73,243,878

Local Banks

Four trading banks operate in Mauritius: The Mauritius Commercial Bank Ltd., The Mercantile Bank Ltd. Barclays Bank D.C.O. and the Bank of Baroda Ltd.

Savings bank facilities are provided by the Post Office Savings Bank, The Mauritius Agricultural Bank, The Mauritius Commercial Bank Ltd., Barclays Bank D.C.O., The Mercantile Bank Ltd. and The Bank of Baroda Ltd.

Long-term loans for agricultural and housing purposes are provided by the Mauritius Agricultural Bank, while Barclays Overseas Development Corporation Limited undertakes medium-term finance on a commercial basis. There is, however, a lack of financial institutions specialising in long-term loans to individual borrowers for such purposes as housing, although loans against mortgages are obtainable from private sources. The Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank Ltd. provides finance on a seasonal basis

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for the cultivation requirements of the co-operative credit movement. The Government also provides assistance to local industry in the form of medium-term loans.

The Mauritius Commercial Bank was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1838 with a capital of Rs 2,000,000, which was increased to Rs 3,000,000 in 1948, to Rs 4,000,000 in 1958 and to Rs 5,000,000 in 1960. The Bank was registered as a limited liability company in August, 1955. The Bank's head office is in Port Louis with branches at Curepipe, Rose Hill, Mahebourg, Quatre Bornes, Centre de Flacq and Triolet. Its London Agents are Lloyds Bank Limited. It has correspondents all over the world and is able to offer a complete banking service. The reserves at the 31st December, 1962, stood at Rs 6,499,591.

The Mercantile Bank Limited, formerly the Mercantile Bank of India Limited, and now a Member of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Group, took over the business of the Bank of Mauritius Limited on the 31st May, 1916. The paid-up Capital of the Bank is £2,940,000. Reserve funds and unappropriated profits amount to £2,448,453. Through its Head Office in London and its branches throughout India, Pakistan, Ceylon, Burma, Thailand, Malaya and the Far East and correspondents throughout the rest of the World, the Mercantile Bank Limited is able to offer comprehensive banking facilities to the people of Mauritius.

Barclays Bank D.C.O. has its Head Office in London and over 1,270 branches in Africa, the Mediterranean area, the Carribean area, England, New York and Hamburg, with correspondents in all other important centres. The paid-up capital of the Bank was £17,000,000 as at 30th September, 1961, and the Reserve Fund was £13,800,000. The Bank, which is affiliated with Barclays Bank Limited, was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1836 as the Colonial Bank and re-incorporated by Act of Parliament in 1925; the name was then changed to Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), which amalgamated with the Anglo-Egyptian Bank Limited and the National Bank of South Africa Limited. The Port Louis, Mauritius, branch was established by the last-named in December, 1919, and was taken over by Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) following the amalgamation. The name of the Bank was changed to Barclays Bank D.C.O. in 1954. There are offices of the Bank at Sir William Newton Street,

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Port Louis, Dumat Street, Port Louis, Curepipe, Rose Hill, Vacoas, Centre de Flacq, Rivière des Anguilles and Rose Belle. The Bank acts as Agent for Barclays Overseas Development Corporation Limited, which was formed to assist in the economic development of territories in which the Bank operates and which had a paid-up capital of £6,000,000 on the 30th September, 1962.

The Bank of Baroda Ltd. Port Louis

The Bank of Baroda Limited Established in 1908. Registered office Mandvi Baroda (India).

The Bank of Baroda Limited was incorporated in the year 1908 in Baroda (India) under the patronage of His Highness the Maharaja Sayajirao Geakwear of Baroda. The Bank had good initial success and with the able directorate and Management the Bank is extending its activities in India and abroad.

The capital structure of the Bank as at 31st December,1962, is as under:—

Authorised capital Rs 8 crores (Eighty millions) Issued and Subscribed capital Rs 4 crores (Forty millions) Reserves exceed rupees two crores (Twenty millions) Total working funds exceeds Rupees 1,200 crores (Rupees twelve thousand millions)

In pursurance of the policy of extending activities the Bank opened 22 new branches inclusive of one in Mauritius in the year 1962. It has 171 branches with 157 in India and 14 abroad. It has branches in all important centres in India and also operates in United Kingdom, Uganda, Kenya, Tanganyika, East Pakistan, Fiji and Mauritius.

The Bank has correspondents in all the important places in the world and is able to provide all types of Banking facilities to tne people of Mauritius.

The Bank has commenced functioning at Port Louis, Mauritius since the 19th October 1962 and in co-operation with the other banks hopes to contribute to the economic and industrial development of Mauritius.

Post Office Savings Bank

The Post Office Savings Bank is operated by the Posts and Telegraphs Department. At the 30th June, 1962 the Bank had 79,214 active accounts and 4,643 dormant accounts with a balance due to depositors of Rs 30,038,620. Savings Bank business is transacted at 31 Post Offices. During 1962 transactions amounted

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in number and value to 51,963 deposits, totalling Rs 13,717,236 and 54,871 withdrawals, totalling Rs 15,807,654. Accounts are regarded as dormant if no transaction takes place for a period of twenty years.

The Mauritius Agricultural Bank

The Mauritius Agricultural Bank was established by Ordinance (214a) No. 1 of 1936 as a " body corporate having perpetual succession and a common seal . . . for the purpose of making long-term loans for agricultural needs ". It started its activities in 1937 with a capital of Rs 10,000,000 which was raised by loans, locally and overseas, by Government. Of this amount Rs 516,000 has been reimbursed by the Bank which had also contributed at the 31st December, 1962, Rs 1,788,480 to a sinking fund.

The first change in the constitution of the Bank occurred in 1940 when the minimum for loans (which had been Rs 5,000) was abolished and the Bank was authorised to draw Bills on the Treasury to finance loans for amounts under Rs 5,000.

The Mauritius Economic Commission (1948) recommended that the Bank's capital be increased and the scope of its activities extended to meet the needs of industrial as well as agricultural enterprises. Legislation was passed to this effect and to authorise the Bank to make long-term loans for housing (Ordinance No. 68 of 1950).

In 1949 the Bank was authorised to raise Rs 3,000,000 from the public by the sale of short-term bills. By Ordinance No. 68 of 1950 it was further empowered:

(a) to raise funds from the public by the issue of long-term debentures, by the issue of subscription debentures payable monthly and quarterly, and by accepting fixed deposits for 12–36 months and saving deposits;

(b) to arrange long-term loans and bank overdrafts.

One of the objects of authorising the Bank to raise funds from the public was to encourage saving in the Colony and it was hoped that the wide choice of investments would prove attractive. At the 31st December, 1962, there were:—

3,136 Savings Accounts for Rs 1,992,315.28
320 Fixed Deposit Accounts for Rs 1,428,510.36
148 Accounts for Subscription Debentures for Rs 105.846.51

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At the 31st December, 1962, the Bank had paid out Rs 66,093,237 in loans as follows:—

	Rs
For agriculture	48,014,210
For housing	17,076,037
For industry	1,002,990
TOTAL ...	66,093,237

The Bank has been entrusted with the management of the loans granted under the Hurricane Loan Ordinance (1945), the Rehabilitation of Factories and Rolling Stock Ordinance (1948), and the Aloe Fibre Industry (Development) Ordinance (1952) and the 1960 Hurricane Loan. The total amount due by borrowers at the 31st December, 1962, was Rs 45,873,000 of which Rs 35,264.075 consisted of Agricultural Bank loans proper (including Rs 9,806.944 for housing loans). Rs 4,751,657 due by borrowers under the Hurricane Loan Ordinance, Rs 1,607,617 due by borrowers under the Rehabilitation of Factories and Rolling Stock Ordinance, and Rs 32,275 due by borrowers under the Aloe Fibre Industry (Development) Ordinance and Rs 4,217,528 due by borrowers under the 1960 Hurricane Loan. The demand for loans since 1950 has been far in excess of the resources of the Bank.

The following is a Summary of the Bank's Balance Sheet as at the 31st December, 1962.

Figures as at 31st December, 1962

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
	Rs		*Rs*
Mauritius Government ...	13,060,653	Loans	39,167,323
Debentures and Sub-Debentures	17,105,846	Cash	1,603,173
Deposits	7,435,232	Investments	1,842,360
Short-term Bills	861,500	Other Assets	3,643,176
Internal A/cs and other expenses	2,044,304	Sinking Fund Contributions	1,788,480
Sinking Fund	1,788,480		
Reserve and Profit and Loss A/c	5,048,495		
	48,044,512		48,044,512

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BANKING STATISTICS

NUMBER OF REPORTING BANKS: 4

Figures as at 31st December, 1962

All figures are in rupees (000 omitted)

LIABILITIES	Rs	ASSETS	Rs
1. Notes in circulation ...	—	1. Cash	6,386
2. Deposits :—		2. Balances due by other banks in the Colony	888
(1) Demand	124,465	3. Balances due from banks abroad	46,441
(2) Time	7,335	4. Loans and advances :—	
(3) Savings	15,183	(1) Primary production (including processing of primary products) ...	57,353
3. Balances due to :—		(2) Other industries (including Commerce, Transport and Distribution)	44,004
(1) Other banks in the Colony	1,339	(3) Other advances ...	20,860
(2) Banks abroad	25,475	5. Investments:—	
4. Other Liabilities	55,361	(1) Local	5,028
		(2) Other	2,000
		6. Other Assets :—	
		(1) Bills discounted ...	2,842
		(2) Bills receivable ...	7,902
		(3) Other	35,454
TOTAL LIABILITIES ...	229,158	TOTAL ASSETS ...	229,158

BANKS EXCHANGE RATES

The buying and selling rates for telegraphic transfers were at the end of 1962, roughly as under:—

	Buying	*Selling*
BRITISH STERLING		
Under £5,000 ...	Rs 13.25 per £1 ...	Rs 13.43 per £1
£5,000 and over ...	Rs 13.26⅜ ,, ...	Rs 13.40 ,,
CANADIAN DOLLARS ...	Rs 4.37½ per $1	Rs 4.47½ per $1
U.S.A. DOLLARS	Rs 4.75 per $1	Rs 4.82 per $1
SOUTH AFRICAN POUNDS		
Under Rd 10,000 ...	Rs 6.60 per 1Rd ...	Rs 6.73 per Rd1
Rd 10,000 and over ...	Rs 6.60 ,, ...	Rs 6.71 ,,
AUSTRALIAN POUNDS ...	No fixed rate	Rs 10.85 per £A1
FRENCH FRANCS		
France	Rs 0.94 per NF 1 ...	Rs 0.99 per NF 1
C.F.A.	Rs 1.88 per 100 francs	Rs 1.98 per 100 francs
OTHER CURRENCIES		
India and Pakistan ...	At par	1 % premium
East Africa	Rs 66 per 100 shs ...	Rs 67.15 per 100 shs.

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The control of foreign exchange was maintained in 1962 under the Mauritius Exchange Control Ordinance, 1951, which was enacted on the lines of the United Kingdom Exchange Control Act, 1947, and thus ensures similarity of practice in exchange control matters in the Scheduled Territories.

Chapter 5 : Commerce

The commerce of the Colony depends almost entirely on the sugar crop which in 1962 yielded 532,636* metric tons as compared with 553,259 metric tons in 1961 and 235,781 metric tons in 1960. Sugar production was low in 1960 as a result of the damages caused to sugar plantations by two violent cyclones which hit the island early during last year. High degree alcohol, a by-product of sugar, is produced mainly for local consumption and the quantity exported in 1962 was negligible. The exportation of molasses, another by-product of sugar, was 110,253 metric tons against 64,633 metric tons in 1961 and 45,180 metric tons in 1960. Exports of tea reached 721 metric tons as compared with 792 metric tons in 1961 and 211 metric tons in 1960. A small part of the Colony's demand for foodstuffs is met by local production, namely meat, sugar, salt, tea, fruits and vegetables, fish (fresh and dried) and coconut oil. Local industries produce cigarettes, matches, aloe-fibre bags for sugar, rum, country liquor, leather, leather and rubber footwear, lime, soap, confectionery, carbon dioxide, metal doors and windows, steel furniture, pasteurized milk, spring mattresses, fibre glass manufactures, boot and furniture polish, louvres, bituminous paint, nails and car batteries. The bulk of the needs of the Colony are met by importation from other countries.

Imports of rice, the staple food of the Colony, reached 68,183 metric tons as compared with 67,215 metric tons in 1961 and 60,568 metric tons in 1960. Wheaten flour was imported mainly from Australia, beef on the hoof from Madagascar and considerable quantities of foodstuff from the United Kingdom, the Republic of South Africa and Australia.

The United Kingdom continues to be the principal source of supply for manufactured goods such as textiles, machinery, motor vehicles, hardware and electrical goods. Large quantities of cotton piece goods are received from India and large supplies of general merchandise from Hong Kong. Manufactured fertilizers are imported mainly from the United Kingdom, Western Germany and France.

* Provisional

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DIRECTION OF EXPORT TRADE

Preferential Tariff Countries	*1960* Rs	*1961* Rs	*1962* Rs
United Kingdom	159,545,799	235,874,497	246,336,535*
Australia	75,740	397,859	1,777,563
Burma	—	1,000,000	—
Canada	9,988,397	36,384,601	13,851,721*
Hong Kong	50,679	91,347	291,854
India	180,544	14,243	16,985
Kenya	255,181	246,001	568,294
Malaya	381,700	862	60,000
New Zealand	36,932	245,023	641,114
Republic of South Africa ...	522,408	517,058	2,114,353
Seychelles	432,811	368,241	317,227
Singapore	319,842	29,010	19,429
Southern Rhodesia	25,405	3,144,691	45,890
Other Preferential Tariff Countries	980,150	117,726	70,878
TOTAL ...	172,795,588	278,431,159	266,111,843*
General Tariff Countries			
France	98,718	152,917	146,629
German Federal Republic ...	336,962	192,529	130,042
Holland	963,557	106,466	2,908,502
Japan	1,516,230	2,320,512	3,035,603
Lebanon	—	4,690	—
Madagascar	547,743	797,323	787,150
Portuguese East Africa	14,950	11,719	12,210
Reunion	1,427,325	1,495,061	1,245,090
United States of America ...	8,025	3,536,767	9.334,721
Other General Tariff Countries ..	68,557	158,967	3,663,626
TOTAL ...	4,982,067	8,776,951	20,363,573
Sugar Quota Certificates ..	7,208,287	6,995,196	10,105,669*
GRAND TOTAL OF EXPORTS ...	184,985,942	294,203,306	296,581,085*

DIRECTION OF IMPORT TRADE

Preferential Tariff Countries	*1960* Rs	*1961* Rs	*1962* Rs
United Kingdom	115,503,856	104,293,118	89,848,640
Aden	84,236	205,161	95,700
Australia	23,032,535	22,438,451	22,126,360
Bahrein	735,746	340,529	164,544
British West Indies	166,450	27,408	163,103
Burma	26,803,635	28,947,559	34,520,091
Canada	383,995	512,838	394,404
Ceylon	191,981	253,174	299,042
Carried over	166,902,434	157,018,238	147,611,884

*Provisional

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DIRECTION OF IMPORTS TRADE—*continued*

	1960	1961	1962
	Rs	Rs	Rs
Brought forward ...	166,902,434	157,018,238	147,611,884
Cyprus	33,952	50,570	33,443
Eire	1,075,912	1,162,244	1,302,828
Hong Kong	9,351,287	9,734,452	11,710,505
India	13,448,230	13,750,925	13,995,555
Kenya	6,795,780	7,687,858	6,915,172
Malaya	2,814.040	2,433,288	2,060,708
New Zealand	473,574	964,159	339,372
Pakistan	1,081,865	1,080,862	1,530,947
Republic of South Africa	21,652,598	27,116,433	34,633,887
Singapore	2,527,957	3,826,796	3,661,980
Southern Rhodesia	594,399	567,092	494,531
Seychelles	763,803	825,663	673,888
Other Preferential Tariff Countries	631,898	572,139	849,833
TOTAL	228,147,729	226,790,719	225,814,533
General Tariff Countries			
Belgium	7,836,669	5,053,567	4,252,370
Czechoslovakia	670,275	750,044	755,443
Denmark	631,881	642,136	1,276,590
Ethiopia	529,447	561,224	643,663
France	12,975,178	12,887,972	15,334,032
German Federal Republic ...	12,957,475	15,025,259	13,142,503
Germany (Eastern)	387,113	245,131	99,375
Holland	6,335,021	5,703,215	6,648,070
Hungary	77,131	78,779	76,137
Iran	9,723,571	8,220,629	12.441,793
Italy (including Sicily)	1,436,395	1,540,570	2,553,975
Japan	13,381,892	9,694,273	10,061,691
Luxembourg	731,274	807,567	774,601
Madagascar	2,749,393	3,193,102	4,056,036
Morocco	911,471	346,283	845,156
Netherlands West Indies ...	379,533	327,791	58,590
Norway	364,338	1,241,439	676,072
Poland	122,592	29,595	36,586
Portugal	699,269	237,499	299 356
Portuguese East Africa	2,419,816	3,525,944	1,533,282
Saudi Arabia	5,117	145	—
Siam	8,799,917	10,026,880	4,666,462
Spain	210,112	320,128	243,258
Sudan	438,412	646,811	7,436
Sweden	2,287,994	2,078,370	1,158,747
Switzerland	1,491,012	1,378,375	1,866,073
United States of America ...	9,501,321	7,552,545	7,782,577
Russia	13,948	23,332	28,212
Yougoslavia	—	1,641	1,723
Other General Tariff Countries ...	5,157,920	4,455,221	5,119,572
TOTAL ...	103,225,487	96,595,467	96,439,381
BAGGAGE ...	493,831	574,321	473,204
GRAND TOTAL OF IMPORTS ...	331,867,047	323,960,507	322,727,118

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TRADE FIGURES—I IMPORTS

Principal Imports	1960 Total=Rs 331,867,047 Quantity	1960 C.I.F. Value Rs	1961 Total=Rs 323,960,507 Quantity	1961 C.I.F. Value Rs	1962 Total=Rs 322,727,118 Quantity	1962 C.I.F. Value Rs	Main Countries of Supply
Rice	60,568 M. Tons	33,042,052	67,215 M. Tons	36,814,172	68,183 M. Tons	37,334,921	Burma, Siam and Pakistan.
Wheaten flour	23,917 ,,	10,026,954	22,654 ,,	9,362,384	26,592 ,,	11,604,298	Australia, France and German Federal Republic.
Other grain and grain products ...	10,866 ,,	6,723,739	12,046 ,,	6,786,833	12.209 ,,	6,528,281	Australia, Republic of South Africa, Madagascar. Kenya, Burma, India, Erythrea, Ethiopia and Holland.
Cattle and meat	—	6,275,239	—	6,763,458	—	7,522,465	Madagascar, Australia, Kenya, Republic of South Africa,
Edible oils and fats	8,277 ,,	12,182,668	7,693 ,,	12,310,772	7,986 ,,	12,507,811	United Kingdom, Holland, France, Belgium, Israel, Japan Portuguese East Africa, German Federal Republic, Republic of South Africa.
Beverages	—	6,166,572	—	6,935,704	—	6,725,799	United Kingdom, France, Republic of South Africa, Singapore. Holland, Eire. German Federal Republic, Spain.
Coal	2,423 ,,	192,274	5,848 ,,	380,407	3,063 ,,	270,254	Republic of South Africa.
Petroleum products	—	12,917,559	—	10,947,445	—	15,050,834	Iran, United Kingdom, U.S. America and Vcnezuala.
Wood and wood manufactures ...	—	5,706,225	—	5,855,814	—	4,346,607	Australia, Malaya, Singapore, Siam, Burma and Japan.
Gunny bags	817,846 Units	1,291,115	165,930 Units	225,905	484,524 Units	565,048	India and Pakistan.
Cotton piece goods	9,115,646 Sq. ms.,	12,068,918	8,981,707 sq. ms.	12,218,676	10,015,814 sq. ms.	12,655,507	United Kingdom, Hong Kong, India, and Japan.
Silk piece goods	2,173,094 ,,	3,479,296	2,557,131 ,,	4,412,262	2,314,117 ,,	4,451,671	United Kingdom, India and Japan.
Woollen piece goods	206,586 ,,	2,334,752	168,251 ,,	1,988,599	88,722 ,,	1,052,310	United Kingdom.
Vehicles :—							
(a) (i) Motor cars	1,186 Units	7,683,676	1,004 Units	6,250,869	914 Units	5,636,299	United Kingdom, Italy, France, and German Federal Republic.
(ii) Other	—	8,901,815	—	8,489,446	—	8,896,791	United Kingdom Republic of South Africa and German Federal Republic.
(b) Railway and tramway locomotives and accessories ...	—	247,420	—	274,589	—	63,111	United Kingdom.
(c) Ships, aircraft and accessories	—	407,278	—	1,037,715	—	569,540	U. Kingdom, Norway and U.S, America.
Cement	94,621 M. Tons	9,887,221	91,815 M. Tons	9,080,799	91,160 M. Tons	8,788,366	United Kingdom, Kenya, Japan, Belgium, and Republic of South Africa.
Machinery other than electric ...	3,799 ,,	21,598,429	— ,,	20,226,751	— ,,	18,227,569	United Kingdom, U. S. America, France and Republic of South Africa.
Electrical goods	—	19,608,477	—	17,460,843	—	12,006,666	United Kingdom, U.S. America. France, Holland and German Federal Rep.
Iron and steel goods	32,282 ,,	33,389,342	21,465 ,,	23,233,073	20,678 ,,	22,764,784	United Kngdom, Belgium, German Federal Republic, France, Japan, Luxembourg. Republic of South Africa, Hong Kong and Australia.
Manures and Fertilizers	61,057 ,,	14,176,216	61,245 ,,	14,019,480	70,357 ,,	15,681,468	United Kingdom. Belgium, German Federal Republic, France, Republic of South Africa, Seychelles and Madagascar.
Paper and paper manufactures ...	2,893 ,,	4,493,479	3,023 ,,	5,192,150	2,558 ,,	4,693,016	United Kingdom, Norway, Sweeden, Republic of South Africa, German Federal Republic and Singapore.

11.—Exports

	1960	1961	1962
	Rs	Rs	Rs
(a) Domestic Exports	172,296,575	276,737,097	277,625,357*
(b) Sugar Quota Certificates ...	7,208,287	6,995,196	10,105,669*
(c) Re-Exports	5,481,080	10,471,013	8,850,059
TOTAL ...	184,985,942	294,203,306	296,581,085*

Principal Exports	1960 Quantity	1960 F.O.B. Value	1961 Quantity	1961 F.O.B. Value	1962 Quantity	1962 F.O.B. Value	Main Countries of Destination
		Rs		Rs		Rs	
Sugar ...	299,371 M.Tons	166,778,758*	505,687 M.Tons	265,195,319	515,144 M. Tons	262,559,475*†	United Kingdom, Canada, Seychelles, Malaya, Singapore, Nyasaland, U.S. America and Japan
Molasses ...	45,180 ,,	3,422,233	64,633 ,,	4,987,507	110,253 "	9,110,777	United Kingdom, U.S America, New Zealand and Holland.
Rum ...	240 Hectols	21,661	148 Hectols	14,108	148 Hoctols	13,571	Hong Kong, Seychelles.
Aloe Fibre ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tea ...	211 M.Tons	1,344,312	792 M.Tons	4,904,063	721 M. Tons	3,889,743	United Kingdom.

†Provisional
*Excluding Value of Sugar Quota Certificates.

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Chapter 6 : Production

Land Utilization and Water Conservation

Mauritius covers an area of 460,800 acres of which about 230,000 acres are under extensive cultivation. Other than the crops from this area, the Island produces little else with which to meet the requirements of a population numbering 680,305 with a density of about 945 to the square mile. The cultivated area consists mainly of sugarcane (210,686 acres); it does not include either economic forestry, or other tree plantations (19,000 acres). Forests and forest plantations, woodlands, mountain, river and natural reserves and scrub total about 200,000 acres. Built up areas, roads, water bodies and open spaces cover 22,000 acres.

The central elevated part of the Island, above the 100" isohyet, is mostly covered with forest and scrub to protect and regulate the water resources. In this area, tea is the only crop cultivated. No laws specifically protecting this natural watershed exist save those giving protection to mountain and rivers reserves.

The main upland water catchment area is mostly Crown property and utilized for the production of forest produce, fuel and fodder, with a limited acreage under tea and other crops. Water resources are mainly dependent on the incidence of nearby cyclonic disturbances bringing rain, most of which falls in the hot season or in the heavy downpours accompanying cyclonic disturbances. Several reservoirs have been constructed in order to conserve this water for both domestic and irrigation purposes as well as for the production of electrical energy.

Land Ownership

In the early days of French colonization, land was conceded to settlers almost all over the Island. Later, land ownership was governed by the French Civil Code or *' Code Napoleon '*. which is still in force. This provides for equal division of property among the heirs which often leads to excessive fragmentation of land. The demand for land is accentuated by the rapid growth of population, leading to inflaton of land values. Grouping of estates into companies has checked fragmentation for the bulk of the cultivated land.

Land Tenure

The Island was uninhabited when first colonized. Its original permanent settlers were the French who, through the grant of concessions, became the original freehold owners of all the land except Crown Lands. At present, apart from Crown Lands, including Crown forests and the " Pas Géométriques " which total 83,000

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acres, the land is owned in large or small lots by all sections of the community. Roughly 70 per cent is owned by companies and private estates, the remainder being the property of the Indo-Mauritian section of the population. In addition to freehold tenure, land is also held leasehold and on share-cropping agreements.

Leasehold tenure is practised to a limited extent on privately-owned lands and on Crown Lands. In the case of Crown Lands, leasing is generally by auction to the highest bidder, but it may also be by contract; leases vary from 3 to 30 years with security of tenure to satisfactory tenants. Various types of share-cropping in the form of " métayage " exist.

Renting System

Rentals are either cash, crop-sharing or " Taungya ". Cash rentals are payable monthly, quarterly or annually; in crop-sharing the proportion of the crop handed over as rental varies according to circumstances and the nature of the crop; under the " Taungya " system, which is adopted particularly in tree plantations, the tenant is permitted to grow vegetables or annual crops between the young trees provided he keeps the trees clear of weeds and supplies any gaps in the tree plantation. This is a temporary system, as cultivation is discontinued as soon as the trees are developed.

Land and Water Development Programmes

These include provision for:

(a) increased reservoir construction both for domestic and irrigation purposes, the latter leading to increased cultivation of land;

(b) increased generation of electrical power.

Land Settlement

There has been no extension of existing settlements which number six and cover a total area of some 1,300 acres. Some 600 tenants are occupying the settlements and they are doing their best to keep their holdings in satisfactory state of cultivation. The policy is to lease land to planters for foodcrop and sugarcane growing on a 50:50 basis. In some settlements, due to the nature of the land, this figure has had to be revised with the result that more sugarcane is being planted than foodcrops and, at the Palmar settlement, tenants have been allowed to plant their entire holding in sugarcane.

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AGRICULTURE

Department of Agriculture

At the 31st December, 1962, the permanent and pensionable staff of the Department numbered 296 as follows:—

Division	*In post*	*Vacancies*
Administrative Division	42	—
Agricultural Division	54	7
Tea Division	6	2
Plant Pathology Division	7	3
Entomological Division	5	2
Agricultural Chemistry Division...	6	1
Engineering Division	7	—
Central Board Division	22	1
Agricultural College Division	12	3
Rodrigues Division (attached to Agricultural Division)	17	2
Fisheries Division	59	1
Division of Veterinary Services	33	4
TOTAL	270	26

The general policy of the Department of Agriculture is to promote the most efficient use of available lands suitable for cultivation and to foster the most efficient production of livestock and livestock products. The training of technical staff for the Department of Agriculture, the Mauritius Sugar Industry Research Institute, the Sugar Industry and the other agricultural interests of the Island is done, in the first instance, at the College of Agriculture which provides a three year course in agriculture and sugar technology. A programme of study leave for officers of the Department of Agriculture enables officers to be trained overseas to meet requirements for specialist and senior professional staff.

The agricultural extension service makes readily available to the farmer assistance and advice translates into general agricultural practice the information obtained from experimental stations. Experimental Stations have been developed in each of the major climatic zones of the Island for the study of crops and livestock suited to these zones.

The sugar industry is the main souurce of wealth and employment and Government's policy is to encourage development of that industry to the limits imposed by oversea markets. The industry has its own research institute which undertakes investigations in both the field and factory.

The Department of Agriculture, in collaboration with the Sugar Research Institute, undertakes extension work amongst small sugarcane planters, having as one of its principal aims the

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raising of small planters' yields to a figure more comparable with that of the estates. The Department also maintains a plant inspection service to prevent introduction of new pests and diseases, controls the cane quarantine greenhouse and administers the Central Cane Arbitration Board.

The development of secondary industries is encouraged, particularly the development of the tea, tobacco and fibre industries and the production of vegetables and foodcrops. The local production of meat and milk, within the limits imposed by the restricted availability of land for fodder and pasture, is encouraged in several ways, the chief of which are the improvement of the milk breed of cattle characteristic of Mauritius, the maintenance of an island-wide artificial insemination service and the fostering of a poultry industry.

Fisheries policy comprises conservation of the lagoon fisheries, development of off shore fishing and investigation of pond culture of fresh water fish.

The Board of Agriculture, Fisheries and Natural Resources studies all matters of policy and makes recommendations to the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Sugar

Sugar is the staple crop of the Island. The whole of the production, with the exception of some 26,500 metric tons consumed locally, is exported, mainly to the United Kingdom; Canada is also an important buyer.

Production in the preceding years was as follows:—

Year	*Metric tons*
1957	562,003
1958	525,842
1959	580,372
1960	235,607 (Cyclone year)
1961	553,259

In 1962, the production of sugar amounted to 532,518 metric tons obtained from a harvested area of about 201,177 acres. The average yield of cane per acre over the whole island was about 23.0 metric tons. Sugar extraction was 11.52 per cent compared with 11.19 per cent in 1961. The production of sugar per acre was approximately 2.65 metric tons, which is, for the third consecutive year, substantially lower than the mean of the four years 1956 to 1959 which is 3.09 metric tons.

Although an important proportion of cane lands is under peasant ownership, mostly Indo-Mauritian, the bulk of the sugar is produced on a plantation scale. The larger plantations with factories produced about 60 per cent of the total crop. The smaller peasant owners, some 15,000 of whom cultivate altogether about 19 per cent of the land under cane, often work their land with the

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assistance of their families, employing extraneous labour at peak times such as at planting and harvesting. Many of these small planters have grouped themselves into co-operative societies for the purpose of consigning their canes to factories.

Sugarcane was milled in 1962 in 22 factories all of which are company owned.

The whole of the sugar produced is marketed by the Mauritius Sugar Syndicate. Since the war the price of Commonwealth sugar has been fixed year by year under the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement. The negotiated price quota exportable under the terms of the Agreement was slightly reduced for 1962 and amounted to 350,075 long tons.

The Commonwealth Agreement has been further extended and will now run up to the end of 1970.

Sugarcane is purchased by factories on the basis of two thirds of the sugar and by-products going to the planters under contracts which are subject to the control of the Central Board which functions as a part of the organisation of the Department of Agriculture.

Exports of molasses amounted to 76,800 metric tons. The production of alcohol reached 1,550,000 litres (100° G.L.) against 1,350,000 in 1961. The greater part of the production was used locally as rum, denatured spirits and power alcohol. 18,352 litres of high strength spirits were exported.

Industrial Crops

Three other crops are grown industrially, but on a small scale compared with sugarcane. These are tea, tobacco, and aloe fibre.

Tea

Unfavourable climatic conditions obtaining during the last quarter of 1961 and the first half of the year under review had an adverse effect on the flushing of tea bushes. The amount of leaf plucked per acre showed an appreciable decrease as compared to previous normal years. The total production for 1962 was 2,799,627 pounds of black tea as compared to 2,809,034 pounds for the previous year.

1,589,216 pounds of black tea were exported in 1962 and this amounts to roughly 57 per cent of the total production. The bulk of the export was consigned to the United Kingdom and sold on the London auctions. The average selling price of the 12,273 chests of Mauritian tea offered for sale on the London Market was 3s. 11. 2d per pound and showed a decrease of 1.4*d* per pound compared to 1961.

Of the 3,000 acres of land which had been leased to individual planters under the Government sponsored scheme for the

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expansion of the tea industry, about 1,850 acres had been cleared and planted by the end of the year.

The Mauritius Agricultural Bank extended its activities during the year and started granting loans for tea plantations on Crown Lands. This measure has encouraged tenants who have leased land from Government to proceed wth development.

In late 1961, the Governments new five year tea development programme commenced. This aims at planting under tea a further 2,500 acres by mid 1965. Progress has been satisfactory but unfavourable climatic conditions have been the limiting factor in land preparation. By the end of 1962, 600 acres had been contour-surveyed and laid out prior to land clearance, 420 acres cleared and prepared for planting and 150 acres planted.

The tea factory " S.T.I.L.I." which opened in 1961 went out of business in 1962. The total number of tea factories now operating is six.

Tobacco

Tobacco was grown on 681 acres in 1962, a decrease of 121 acres compared with 1961. Of this area, 483 acres were under Virginian varieties, 16 acres under Burley and the remainder under Amarello flue-cured and air-cured. The total production amounted to 372 metric tons.

Imports of cigarettes and leaf tobacco have remained at about the same level as in 1961. During the year, there has been a further decrease in consumption of locally manufactured cigarettes.

Domestic Virginian leaf blended with imported leaf is used in the manufacture of the " Embassy ", " Vogue ", " Soirée ", " Domino " and " Cabaret " brands of local cigarettes, which sell in competition with local cigarettes " Matinée " and " Mills " manufactured entirely from imported Virginian leaf and imported Virginian cigarettes.

Amarello and some of the lower grades of domestic Virginian leaf are utilised for the cheaper brands, selling below the price range of imported cigarettes.

Tobacco is almost entirely grown in small plots, for the most part by peasant cultivators.

In 1962, producers received on the average Rs 7.27 per kilo for Virginian flue-cured leaf, Rs 6.00 per kilo for Amarello flue-cured, Rs 2.52 per kilo for Burley and Amarello air-cured sold at Rs 2.48 per kilo.

Mauritius can produce flue-cured Virginian of good colour and aroma but attempts to obtain an export market have failed owing to the relatively high cost of production compared with other producing centres, the small acreage under cultivation and the necessity of selling the " run of the crop ".

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The area annually grown is determined by the Tobacco Board according to the estimated requirements of manufacturers. The Board comprises representatives of the various interests concerned. The Tobacco Warehouse, operated by the Board, receives, grades, processes, bales, stores and sells all the tobacco produced in the Island.

Fibre

In the past five years, fibre production averaged 1284 tons a year. This was purchased by the Government Sack Factory for manufacture into sacks for bagging sugar. In 1962, twelve fibre factories were in operation producing 1299 tons compared with 1,111 tons in 1961 and 972 tons in 1960. Although the fibre productions increased in 1962, the Government Sack Factory had to import 408 tons of jute not only to supplement the supplies of aloe fibre but also to reduce the cost of production. Jute was purchased at an average price of Rs 820 per ton and aloe fibre at an average price of Rs 1,212 per ton. In 1962, the Sugar Millers did not order 5 x 8 aloe-jute sacks for bagging white sugar consumed locally and insted used the lighter 5 x 7 aloe-jute sack which has proved suitable.

The following goods were produced by the Government Sack Factory in 1962:—

400,736 Aloe sacks. 6×8, of 80 kgs. capacity
1,070,052 Aloe-jute sacks, 5×7, of 80 kgs. capacity
4,588 Aloe-jute sacks 10×11 'Flour sacks)
24,801 sacks of other types
26,358 yards of filter cloth
6,263 yards of other products
17,586 kilos of yarn

All the fibre produced in the Island is marketed by the Mauritius Hemp Producers' Syndicate which grades bales, stores and sells the fibre.

Food Crops

Production of foodcrops and vegetables in Mauritius amounted to some 36,063 tons from an area of approximately 8,870 acres.

The Extension Service advises farmers on improved agricultural techniques including pest and disease control on all food and vegetable crops. Evening meetings and film shows are organised and at these meetings agricultural problems are discussed and advice is given. Demonstrations are carried out on the application of insecticides and fungicides for the control of pests and diseases, on the use of weedicides and the correct use of fertilizers is likewise demonstrated. The protection of potato plantations against blight by means of preventive sprays of Zineb and Copper has been more generally accepted by farmers and the

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mobile potato spraying unit was in constant demand. With a view to encouraging potato farmers to use certified seed, such seed was subsdised and as a result 600 tons of certified seed potatoes were purchased by farmers. The demonstration of fodder conservation in pit silos continued.

LIVESTOCK

The control of slaughter of cows helped to maintain the strength of milch herbs in the Island. 1,928 cows unsuitable for breeding were slaughtered under permit as compared with 2,113 in 1960 and 1,863 in 1961. On humane grounds permits were also issued for the slaughter of 206 cows.

12,282 milch cows were inseminated and the overall conception rate of 68 per cent showed slight improvement. In addition, over 7,000 cases requiring veterinary aid inclusive of assessment for pregnancy and enucleation of ovarian cysts were attended to.

Progeny testing of bulls of the Creole milch breed was pursued and additional basic data on the breed was collected. The department provided selected Boran bulls to herd cattle owners with a view to upgrading their stock. Likewise selected bucks of the Anglo-Nubian breed were not only provided to individual goat breeders but at three extension service centres selectd bucks were stationed to provide service to peasant goat keepers to improve their stock.

Young stock of Large White pigs, originally imported from Australia and South Africa and bred at the livestock breeding station at Curepipe, were sold to pig breeders. Owing to increased production of pigs in the Island and in Rodrigues the overall figures for sales of young stock fell by 50 per cent over the previous years.

At the poultry breeding centre, a demonstration broiler unit, including a processing and packing plant, was constructed and broiler trials were initiated.

To improve egg production in the Island, over 15,000 day-old chicks from progeny tested stock of various breeds were sold to poultry keepers; 1,000 pullets at point-of-lay, reared under the newly established open range system, were sold to poultry keepers in the villages under the " Grow More Food " campaign. As a result, imports of eggs from overseas have declined appreciably during the year.

To encourage the production of small family size turkeys. foundation stock of Broad Breasted Bronze was imported for trial.

The new Animal Health Laboratory was nearing completion by the end of the year. Notwithstanding the fact that optimum laboratory facilities were lacking, 425,400, 91,200, 47,500, 4,300 and 1,000 doses respectively of Newcastle Disease (Live) Vaccine,

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N.C.D. (Inactivated) vaccine. Fowl Pox Vaccine, Distemper Vaccine and Swine Fever Vaccine were prepared and issued to stock breeders. Advice and a diagnostic service was provided to 3,210 breeders.

FISHERIES

The control of the Mauritius Fisheries is exercised by the Fisheries Division of the Department of Agriculture. This consists of a Fisheries Officer and an inspectorate of 59 inspectors and guards who are responsible for the enforcement of the laws regulating fisheries, the collection and establishment of statistics and the study and implementation of all new measures which might be recommended for the better protection of the stock, for the improvement of the efficiency of the industry and the welfare of the fishing community.

The Department has given considerable attention to an aspect of production new to Mauritius, namely, the farming of freshwater fish for the production of food rich in protein which is deficient in the diet of most classes of the population.

Fishing is practised in the lagoon surrounding most of the Island, which covers an area of about 95 square miles and on the off shore shelf, to the 100 fathoms line, which is extensive in the northern part forming a bank of about 200 square miles with an average depth of 35 fathoms. About 2,600 fishermen with some 1,800 light fishing boats and a number of deep-sea pinnaces, together produce an annual catch of some 2,000 tons.

Usually middlemen supply the boats and gear to the fishermen who in return bringin their catch at an agreed price. The Middlemen is expected to make advances during periods of enforced idleness occasioned by adverse weather. Loans are still being granted by Government either for the construction of new boats or to repair those damaged during cyclones. This scheme is still successful and Rs 400,000 have been loaned to 951 persons during the year. The catch is entirely consumed locally. The price varies with the abundance of fish; it is generally lower during the summer months when more fish is caught.

Oyster Culture

Following expert advice obtained on modern methods of oyster culture, encouraging results have been obtained from experiments. It is expected to increase the annual yield of oysters which hitherto has been derived from natural oyster beds. Where conditions are suitable, some owners of fish ponds are now co-operating to try out these techniques on a pilot scale. Collectors and young oysters have been distributed. The growth of young oysters has been very encouraging.

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FORESTRY

(a) Areas of different types of forest. Forest areas in Mauritius are classified as follows—

I. *Crown Forest Estate*

	Acreage	*Total area in acres*
A. *Areas potentially productive*		
(a) Plantations of exotics (part temporarily unplanted due to cyclone damage	11,645	
(b) Area suitable and available for economic forestry;—		
(i) Mountain Reserves areas	3,140	
(ii) National Reserves	3,285	
(iii) Other areas	12,970	
		31,040
Catchment areas supplying existing and proposed reservoirs etc. amounting to approximately 22,000 acres, are included in this total of 31,040 acres.		
B. *Areas potentially unproductive*		
(i) Mountain Reserves areas	14,845	
(ii) National Reserves	1,220	
(iii) Other areas	5,035	
		21,100
Catchment areas amounting to approximately 6,000 acres are included in this total of 21,100 acres.		
C. *Areas leased or otherwise occupied and not available for forestry (inclusive of approximately 6,000 acres of catchment areas in respect of existing and proposed reservoirs etc.)*		15,100
TOTAL=		67,240

The area of Crown Forest Estate shows a reduction of 460 acres due to excisions in respect of land surrendered for village sites and exchanges.

II. *Leased Crown Lands in Coastal Belt of 250 (French) feet—Pas Géométriques*

(i) Tree Plantations (mainly Casuarina equisetifolia)	4,190	
(ii) Rocky grazing lands with trees	1,100	
		5,290

III. *Privately-owned forest lands*

(i) Mountain Reserves (ii) River Reserves	Protected by law	9,000 6,500	
			15,500
(iii) Forest Lands (iv) Scrub Land (including grass and grazing lands)	Not protected by law	15,000 70,875	
			85,875
		TOTAL=	106,665
		GRAND TOTAL=	173,905

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(b) Policy and methods of management

The Crown Forest Estate. The forest policy of the Government of Mauritius may be summarised as follows:—

(i) to reserve in perpetuity sufficient land either already forested or capable of afforestation in order to safeguard and maintain water supplies, preserve the climatic and physical conditions of the Colony, prevent erosion and the silting up of reservoirs, provide forest produce for domestic, agricultural and industrial requirements and to maintain soil stability where the land is liable to deterioration if put to other uses;

(ii) to manage the Forest Estate so as to obtain the best returns on its capital value and the expenses of management, in so far as such returns are consistent with the primary aims set out above;

(iii) to set aside in perpetuity as ' National Reserves ' suitable areas of the native forests of Mauritius and to preserve such areas in their natural state by controlling, and preventing if possible, the intrusion and establishment of other-than-native trees and plants;

(iv) to encourage and assist the practice of sound forestry by private enterprise, and to educate selected Mauritians in technical forestry.

(c) Organisation of the forest industry. The Forest Department is directly responsible for the management of the Crown Forest Estate; all silvicultural and exploitation operations within it have in the past been conducted by the Department but during the last six months the exploitation of cyclone damage pine plantations has been undertaken partly by the concessionaire and partly by the Department, the departmental conversion of timber having been discontinued.

Privately-owned forest lands other than those protected by law, such as River and Mountain Reserves, are managed by individual owners.

All forest produce is consumed locally.

Within privately-owned River and Mountain Reserves which are protected by law, no felling or forestry operations of any kind may be carried out except with the approval of Government, such approval being given only in exceptional circumstances and being restricted to the removal of dead and fallen trees. The protection of these privately-owned Reserves is undertaken by the Forest Department.

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(d) Initial processing of timber, sawmills. In departmental working, timber is manhandled from stump to roadside. In exploitation being undertaken by the concessionaire, tractors are used for extraction to roadside and mechanical loading has been adopted. A modern sawmill with preservative plant, erected by the concessionaire, came into operation in the middle of the year and in addition, 76 small privately owned mills were in operation.

(e) Marketing of produce. The three Forest Department Timber Stores at Port Louis, Rose Hill and Curepipe were closed down and the system under which all timber obtained from the Crown Forest Estate is said in the round, at road side eas brought into operation. Fuel from theCrown Forest Estate is still converted departmentally and sold in the forest to individual purchasers. The burning of charcoal is no longer done deparmentally; fuelwood for this purpose is sold, standing, to private purchasers.

Produce from privately-owned forests is generally sold standing to dealers in timber, firewood and charcoal, but some owners conduct their own exploitation operations.

(f) Exploitation of forest produce

A. *From Crown Forest Estate.* The attention of the Department was concentrated during the year on the exploitation of pine plantations damage by the 1960 cyclones and the salvaging of utilizable timber, poles and firewood from areas handed over for tea planting. Details of forest produce exploited on Crown Forest Lands during 1962 are as follows:— *R*

(i) Timber	*Cubic feet round measure*
(a) Hardwoods	94,694
(b) Softwoods	337,454
(ii) Poles and masts	
(a) Hardwoods	46,343
(b) Softwoods	9,209
GRAND TOTAL ...	487,700

(iii) *Firewood and charcoal.* 19,780 ' cordes ' of firewood, each of 50 stacked cubic feet (equivalent to 989,000 cubic feet solid) together with 5,056 ' cordes ' (253,000 cubic feet) of fuelwood for conversion into charcoal were produced from the Crown Forest Estate, (The volume of dry waste wood removed in head loads, free of charge, and estimated at an equivalent of 3,000 ' cordes ' or 150,000) cubic feet, is not include in the volumes of fuelwood given above).

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B. *From privately-owned forests and leased Crown Lands*

(i) *Timber.* An estimated volume of some 365,000 cubic feet of round timber, princpally ' filao ' and eucalyptus was produced (accurate figures are not available).

(ii) *Firewood and charcoal.* The quantity of fuelwood produced is estimated at 6,000 ' cordes ' of firewood (300,000 cubic feet solid) and 800,000 kgs. of charcoal (equivalent to 200,000 cubic feet of fuelwood.

The Forest Department

Organization of the Department. The permanent establishment of the Department consisted of 163 posts inclusive of clerical staff. At the end of the year, one Assistant Conservator, thirteen Forest Guard and one Asistant Surveyor posts were vacant. The smallest administrative unit in the management of the Crown Forest Estate is the Forest Section under the control of a Forester assisted by one or more Forest Guards. Twenty seven Forest Sections are grouped territorially into four Forest Ranges each administered by a Forest Ranger assisted by one or more Deputy Rangers. Two Forest Ranges constitute a Division which is administered by a Divisional Forest Assistant under the general control of the Conservator of Forests. An Assistant Conservator coordinates exploitation operations and supplies of timber, poles and fuel fuel while the Deputy Conservator deals with the silvicultural aspect and assists the Conservator in general administration.

For routine forestry work the Department employed, during 1962, an average labour force of 568 labourers and pieceworkers. These employees were engaged on silvicultural operations, exploitation, road-making, nursery and survey work.

Cyclones. Slight damage was caused to young plantations by cyclone Jenny, on the 28th February 1962, necessitating the stacking of small trees. More serious was the loss of nursery stock due to flooding.

Imports of timber. An equivalent roundwood volume of 780,000 cubic feet of timber of a gross value of Rs 3,422,840 was imported during the year principally from Malaya and Siam. The value of treated, locally-grown softwoods is not yet appreciated by the public and there is still a preference for the imported hardwoods in building construction.

Food production. The application of the " taungya " system is restricted to the forest lands at the lower and warmer elevation and the coastal belt owing to the damage caused to crops by deer, pigs and monkeys in the upland forest zones.

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Protection. Despite the usual outbreaks of fire on Signal Mountain, the experimental plantings were satisfactorily protected against fire damage but considerable trouble was again experienced in preventing damage by trespassing goats.

Tea Cultivation. For the extension of tea planting on Crown Forest Lands in the Midlands and Vuillemin Blocks, the Forest Department carried out the initial clearing and road construction in order to salvage utilizable timber, poles and firewood over a total area of approximately 700 acres.

Silviculture. Owing to difficulties in obtaining adequate supplies of pine seed, no local collection having been possible since the 1960 cyclones, the planting of new areas was limited by the shortage of plants and amounted to only 285 acres. The rehabilitation of cyclone-damaged plantations was proceded with, and a total of 210 acres of plantation was coppiced or replanted.

Output of Forest Produce

The estimated volumes (log volume) of timber and fuelwood produced locally or imported into Mauritius during 1962 were as follows: —

(i) *Major Forest Produce (Timber and Poles)*

	Roundwood Volume Cubic ft.
(A) Local Production	
(*a*) From Crown Forests	487,700
(*b*) From unleased Pas Géométriques	1,000
(*c*) From privately-owned Forests and leased Pas Géométriques	365,000
TOTAL ...	853,700
B. Imports	
(*d*) Imports from 1st January to 31st December, 1962 (total value—Rs 3,422,840)	779,715
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,633,415

(ii) *Minor forest produce (local production)*

	Cubic ft. (solid)
(*a*) Firewood from Crown Forest Land (in stacked) 'cordes' of 50 cubic feet sclid)	989,000
(*b*) Firewood from privately-owned Forest Lands or leased Crown Lands (estimated)	300,000
TOTAL ...	1,289,000
	Kgs.
(*c*) Charcoal from Crown Forest Lands (1,012,000 kgs.)	253,000
(*d*) Charcoal from privately-owned lands or leased Crown Lands (800,000 Kgs. estimated)	200,000
TOTAL ...	453,000
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,742,000

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Revenue and Expenditure. During the calendar year 1962, expenditure under the Recurrent Forestry Vote amounted to Rs 2,266,715 while the Revenue derived from sale of forest produce and rentals in respect of Shooting and Fishing leases totalled Rs 938,275. The value of stocks on hand in the forest, at 31st December, 1962, was estimated at Rs 49,400.

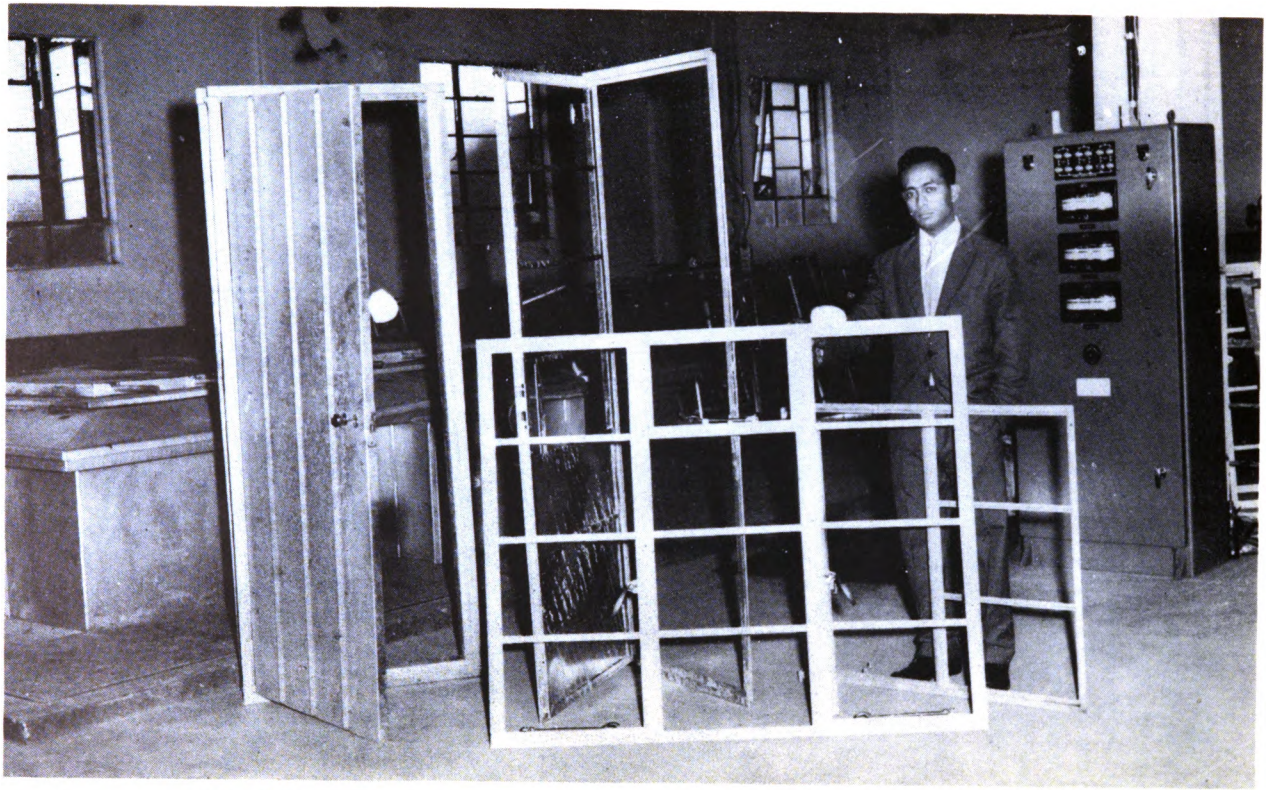
Manufacturing Industries

Apart from the sugar, tea, tobacco and fibre industries discussed above, various small industries, including engineering, printing and tanning, have been established in the Island. Other local industries include the manufacture of rum, wine, edible oil, soap, cigarettes, aerated beverages, dairy produce, salt, lime and bricks.

Various measures for stimulating the steady growth and development of secondary industries have been taken. The Customs Tariff Ordinance, as recently amended, provides for import duty concessions or complete exemptions in respect of machinery, plant and raw materials imported for the manufacture or preparation of most of the commodities which are produced in the Colony. It also provides, under certain conditions, for the grant of drawbacks or remissions of the whole or part of the import duty paid in respect of materials used in the local manufacture of goods, when such goods are exported from the Colony in the ordinary course of trade. Furthermore, suitable alterations to the tariff have been made with a view to stimulating the local production of manufacture goods. The Income Tax Ordinance provides additional incentives: the initial and annual allowance with respect to industrial buildings, plant and machinery have been increased, the benefit of allowances for wear and tear has been extended to machinery let or hired, an allowance in respect of capital expenditure incurred on scientific research related to any trade has been introduced and, more significantly, tax relief over a number of years is being allowed to approved companies investing in new industries or existing industries not operating on a scale suitable to the economic requirements of the Island.

The incentives given have already resulted in the production locally of a variety of goods, including car batteries, carbon dioxide, louvres, bituminous paints, nails, metal doors and windows, fibre glass manufactures, steel furniture, boot and furniture polish and spring mattresses, and in the establishment of a modern sawmill, a brewery and a factory for processing milk. Proposals for setting up other industrial enterprises have been received from industrialists and are under consideration.

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Metal Window-frames: one of the new industries started in Mauritius.

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Co-operative Societies

The co-operative movement in Mauritius and Rodrigues is guided by a Department of Government in conjunction with a secondary society—the Mauritius Co-operative Union Limited. The movement derives financial support from another secondary society, the Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank Limited, whilst the interests of agricultural and distributive societies are attended to by the Mauritius Co-operative Agricultural Federation Limited. and the Mauritius Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited, respectively.

The movement is composed of 4 Secondary Societies, 326 Primary Societies comprising 32,042 members; and divided into 172 Co-operative Credit Societies of unlimited liability of which 6 are confined to lessees of Crown Lands in Land Settlement Schemes, and 154 Co-operative Societies of limited liability comprising 77 Consumers' Stores Societies, 40 Societies providing savings facilities (20 in Schools, 2 for salary earners. including one credit union, 18 for other persons) 19 Transport Societies, 6 Tea Marketing Societies, 7 Fishermen's Societies of which two furnished credit, 3 Housing Societies, one Printing Society and one Better Living Society.

The Department of Co-operation is responsible for the registration of new societies, including the advice, guidance and economic investigation involved in the organisation; for the audit and supervision of existing societies and for the education of officers and members in co-operative activities, in both of which it receives material assistance from the staff of the Mauritius Co-operative Union Ltd.; for arbitration in disputes, and, when necessary, for the cancellation of registration and liquidation of societies. During the year the raising of standards of management, secretarial work and book-keeping and the control of credit within the consumer section of the movement, continued to engage the main attention of the department.

The Mauritius Co-operative Union Ltd., at the end of the year, had a membership of 214 societies. Its objects are to promote co-operation, to bring together co-operative institutions for common endeavour, to assist with supervision and audit, to promote education in co-operative activities and to represent the Movement. During the the year the Union provided stationery to societies upon payment, and arranged for legal advice and assistance to societies. At the end of the year the staff consisted of of twelve supervisors, of whom one acted as Secretary. The total revenue of the Union, for the financial year ending on 28th February, 1962, amounted to Rs 104,370 of which 24 per

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cent was derived from donations from Secondary Societies, and 29 per cent was derived from a grant ih aid from Government (Rs 30,000), the balance of 47 per cent being the society's revenue from audit and supervision and from the legal aid fees. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies is *ex officio* the President of the Union and of its central and executive committees. The Deputy Registrar and two Co-operative Officers are *ex officio* members of the Union.

The Mauritius Co-operative Agricultural Federation Ltd., with a membership of 149 societies, acts on behalf of its societies in agricultural matters and for this purpose retains the services of a barrister and of a firm of Chartered Accountants. The Federation was represented on a number of Government boards and Committees. Its staff consists of a secretary, an assistant secretary, and a messenger.

The Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank Limited, at the end of the financial year had a membership of 187 societies, share capital of Rs 541,693, reserves of Rs 974,130 and deposits of Rs 1,813,499. Loans issued amounted to Rs 3,350,111, an increase of Rs 45,562 over the previous year. Loans to member societies. consisting mainly of cane-growers, are secured on the societies' sugar, all of which is sold through the Bank's Secretary-Manager, who is also the Bank's broker. The rate of interest charged on loans by the Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank to the member societies varied with the Bank Rate from 6½ per cent to 7½per cent and back again.

The Mauritius Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited, with 77 member-societies, had a trurnover of Rs 4,771,770 for the financial year ended 28th February, 1962. The Society's share capital was Rs 146,875 and the statutory reserve amounted to Rs 96,555.

Credit Societies of Unlimited Liability

At the end of the year there were 172 credit societies of unlimited liability, of which 19 were in Rodrigues, with a membership of 10,521. The majority of the members of the Mauritius societies are cane growers while those of the Rodrigues societies are mainly engaged in subsistence farming. On 28th February, 1962, loans by Mauritius Societies to members totalled Rs 4,618,022 and were secured by lien on the crops and by sureties. Payments to members for cane marketed through the agency of their societies amounted to Rs 17,165,965, including cyclone insurance payments. The deposits of members amounted to Rs 566,014. Share capital of all societies amounted to Rs 530,920.

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Credit Societies of Limited Liability

Of the seven Fishermen's Co-operative Societies of limited liability in existence at the end of the year two, one in Mauritius and one in Rodrigues, provided credit for members, the other five jointly owned fishing boats and gear, and marketed catches.

Thrift and Savings Societies

There were twenty societies at the end of the year, including one Credit Union. Two of the Societies served salary earners only. Amongst rural societies members tended to find that savings could be effected as easily and more profitably with credit societies. At the close of the financial year ended 28th February, 1962, the savings in the two salary earners societies amounted to Rs 219,976, and in other societies to Rs 317,859.

School Savings Banks

By the end of the year the number of school savings banks was reduced to twenty. The transitory membership inevitable in schools does not make for stability and every school society finally depends upon the hard pressed and non-resident school staff. In addition, few schools have gardens or workshops which would enable pupils to save money earned by themselves by means more constructive than obtaining it from their parents; in rural areas pocket money for children is the exception rather than the rule. In Rodrigues, however, steady progress was maintained. The three school savings banks there saved up to the close of the financial year on 28th February, 1962, Rs 12,207 whereas in Mauritius the savings were Rs 19,333.

The Mauritius Co-operative Union continued to supply books free of charge from its Education Fund, and as a special concession to help the school savings banks to build up funds for communal activities, the Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank paid interest at 3½ per cent per annum on their deposits.

Co-operative Retail Stores

The new Societies were registered during the year and five were cancelled. On 28th February, 1962, there were 77 co-operative retail stores on the register, 75 in Mauritius and 2 in Rodrigues with a membership of 14,598 ahd a turnover of Rs 6,792,516. The majority of societies operated successfully, but a number suffered losses through defalcations, bad manage-

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ment and excessive credit sales. In addition to the usual bad debts reserve, all societies are building up, by allocation of surplus, what is termed a mutual aid fund intended to cover credit sales up to the amount of the fund on the basis of a maximum credit limit for each member. In this way the fund serves as a buffer against losses on credit sales and makes up for capital tied up in debts.

Marketing Societies

The marketing of green tea leaf is subject to the Tea Industry Control Ordinance, 1959 and regulations made thereunder: Green leaf is sold to factories under annual contract. No Tea Marketing Societies effected contracts for the sale of members leaf after 30th June, 1961.

Other Societies marketing produce consisted of five fishermen's societies, which sold 31,295 lbs of fish valued at Rs 25,777.

Housing Societies

Three housing societies had a total membership of 304, share capital of Rs 11,700 and deposits of Rs 16,889. They were financed by Government loan, and owed Rs 309,803 to the Government at the close of the financial year ended 28th Febuary, 1962.

Printing Society

The Co-operative Printing Society had 847 members, a share capital of Rs 29,840 and a printing press in Port Louis. It carried out Rs 71,460 worth of printing business during its financial year ended 28th February, 1962.

Transport Societies

The number of Transport Societies was 19 by 28th February, 1962. Statistics for the financial year show a membership of 982. paid up share capital of Rs 293,915 and 52.164 metric tons of canes transported. Capital expenditure incurred by members of these societies is reimbursed from the Sugar Planters Rehabilitation Fund. Licence fees continued to be paid at the same rate as public transporters.

Better Living Society

One co-operative better-living society operated in Long Mountain. It maintained a kindergarten school for about 16 children under five years of age. The kindergarten received a subsidy from a Co-operative Credit Society.

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Educational Activities

In addition to staff conferences, the staff continued to take correspondence courses in book-keeping and other subjects from the Co-operative College, Loughborough, and three of them successfully sat for examinations.

Audit

The audit of all societies' accounts for the period ending 28th February, 1962 was completed. Except in the case of three secondary societies, the printing society and one salary earners thrift society, which employed professional or approved auditors, the audits were carried out by the staff of the Department of Co-operation assisted by the Mauritius Co-operative Union Limited. In addition to the annual statutory audit, interim audits were done throughout the year.

Arbitrations

One hundred and ninety disputes were referred to the Registrar during the year. The majority were referred to arbitration; appeals to the Registrar numbered six. Most of the disputes arose from failure to pay for goods purchased on credit, others concerned stock and cash shortages in stores, and a minority a failure to repay loans. Where necessary the awards were referred for execution to the attorney retained by the Mauritius Co-operative Union Limited. The Co-operative movement was fortunate in retaining the honorary services as arbitrators of two retired civil servants, and two retired teachers, all active members of the movement.

TABLE

The following table gives an indication of developments over three years:—

		1960	*1961*	*1962*
Total Societies ...		338	332	330*
Total Members ...		32,420	32,604	32,042*
Total Turnover ...	Rs	44,130,209*	42,143,112*	40,244,230*
Share Capital ...	Rs	1,909,840	1,948,449*	2,050,925*
Reserve Funds ...	Rs	2,793,357	3,028,471*	3,264,273*
Other Funds ...	Rs	674,393*	754,783*	843,023*
Government loans to Societies ...	Rs	314,490*	411,386*	359,493*
Total Assets ...	Rs	13,127,144*	13,217,880*	13,099,163*

*For the year ended 28th February.

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Chapter 7: Social Services

EDUCATION

Organization

The Education (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 2 of 1960) has placed the former Education Department under the control of the Minister of Education and Cultural Affairs who is now statutorily responsible for the progress and development of the educational system of the Colony. The chief adviser of the Minister is the Permanent Secretary who is responsible for the proper administration of the Ministry.

The Education Ordinance (No. 39 of 1957) provides for the appointment by the Minister of an Advisory Board to advise him on all questions concerning education in the Colony. The Minister may also appoint sub-committees on the recommendation of the Board.

The staff of the Ministry now comprises over 4,000 officers.

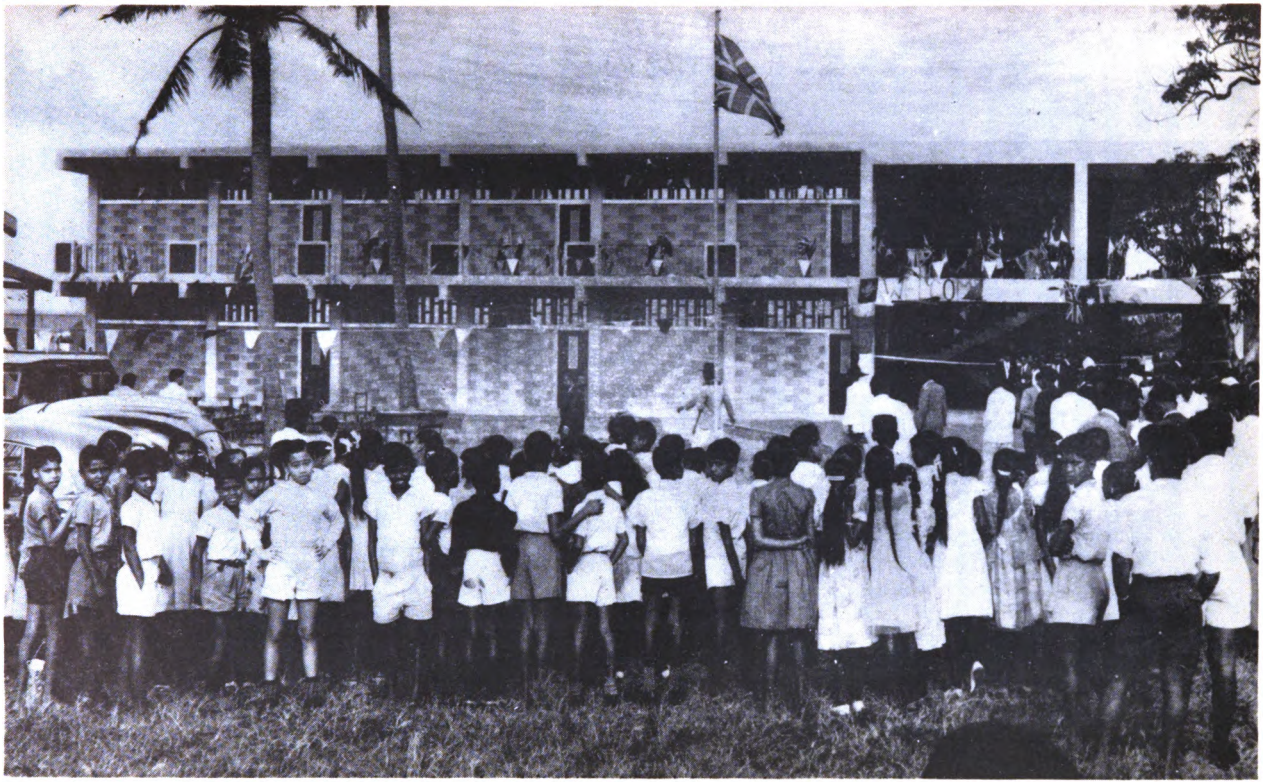
Educational Facilities

In primary education the English pattern is followed, generally speaking, subject to adjustments to suit local conditions. The course lasts six years; pupils enter at the age of 5 but are allowed to stay up to the age of 12 to compete for the junior scholarships which entitle the winners to free tuition in secondary schools.

On the 31st October, 1962, there were 200 Government and Aided Primary Schools providing free education to 119,630 pupils. The 75 aided schools are managed by four Education Authorities: Roman Catholic (53 schools), Church of England (17 schools), Hindi (3 schools) and Muslim (2 schools). There were in addition 158 other primary and secondary schools registered with the Ministry with a roll of 6,037 primary school children. This number, which includes 2,598 children in the primary sections of the secondary schools brought the total number of children receiving primary education in 1962 to 125,667. Of that total 67,502 were boys and 58,165 girls.

Teachers in aided primary schools are paid by the Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs and are appointed, transferred or promoted on the recommendation of the Authority concerned. The promotion of teachers in the Government primary schools is, like that of other civil servants, subject to the Governor's approval, which is usually given on the advice of the Public Service Commission.

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DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Opening ceremony at one of the new primary schools.

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According to the Education Ordinance, a total of 120 Government scholarships are obtainable on a competitive basis, 70 for boys and 50 for girls. These scholarships which provide free secondary education, free travelling and a grant of Rs 300 a year, are tenable at Government, aided and unaided secondary schools, which have been given approval as ' B ' status schools. A number of similar scholarships may be awarded to candidates from Rodrigues and to pupils of the Technical Institute.

Secondary education is almost exclusively of the grammar school type, leading to university courses. Government schools can meet only part of the demand and since 1951 a number of private schools which can offer satisfactory guarantees of proper schooling up to School Certificate or Higher School Certificate level has been subsidized. There were on the 31st October, 1,750 pupils in the four Government secondary schools, 4,688 in the subsidized schools known as " approved secondary school " and 20,423 in the unaided secondary schools. This total of 26,861 secondary pupils was made up of 18,006 boys and 8,855 girls. The 105 secondary schools comprise 4 Government, 13 grant-aided and 88 other schools.

Six scholarships are awarded annually by the Government of Mauritius to Form VI students (4 boys and 2 girls) who top the lists of candidates at the Cambridge Higher School Certificate examination. These scholarships, of an annual value of £500—£540 p.a., entitle the holders to a four to six-year university course in the U.K. or other approved countries and to a free return passage.

Twenty scholarships were awarded during the year to Mauritian students under the Commonwealth Scholarship Plan and Teacher Training Scheme.

Apart from the College of Agriculture and Training College, there are no institutions in the Colony which provide full-time post-secondary education, and students wishing to follow university and other post-secondary courses have to go overseas. In 1962, there were over 700 students following courses in institutions of higher education in the United Kingdom, Eire, Europe, India and the U.S.A.

All those seeking permanent service in the Government and aided primary schools must pass through the Teachers' Training College at Beau Bassin. The normal course is of two years' duration but this has to be supplemented from time to time by shorter courses to meet the demand for new teachers. During the

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year, 260 (163 men and 97 women) were in training at the College or in the primary schools.

Temporary accommodation was still being used in primary schools which had been damaged by cyclone *Carol* in 1960, pending the completion of the reconstruction programme.

Building work on five new primary schools and on the replacement of an old primary school started during the year. Accomodation was still scarce at the end of the year and a number of schools had to operate on a double shift system.

School Health Service

The School Health Service falls under two headings: medical and dental. The medical staff comprises a Senior School Medical Officer, two School Medical Officers. The Nursing staff consists of five nurses assisted by three Health Workers. There are six dentists, assisted by Clinical and Clerical Assistants, giving part time attention to schools.

Entrants into all Government and aided primary schools and into the four Government secondary schools are medically examined. Leavers and pupils in the intermediate age group are also medically examined. Free medical treatment is provided for primary school pupils. All new teaching staff and school caretakers are medically examined and X-rayed. Teachers for transfers on medical grounds are also medically examined by the School Medical Officers.

The School Nurses and Health Wokers carry out cleanliness and health surveys (including distance vision testing) in the Primary schools.

The Medical staff is helped by an Assistant Nutritionist whose duties include giving talks on nutrition to senior pupils in primary schools and to mothers of school children and weighing and measuring pupils and rendering assistance in connexion with the school milk scheme.

Iron enriched milk is given to the pupils of the Government and aided primary schools. Extra milk, iron tablets, yeast and halibut oil capsules are issued on the recommendation of the School Medical Officers.

The dental service provides treatment to primary school pupils only. Pupils of schools in the urban areas are treated at the hospitals while schools in rural areas are visited by four Mobile Dental Clinics. Teeth cleaning drills are held regularly at school. Tooth brushes at a subsidised price are available for sale to primary

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school pupils. Nit combs and nail brushes are sold at cost price to school children and their parents.

All school health personnel are officers of the Health Department.

Handicrafts

Owing to the damage caused to primary school buildings and the consequential shortage of accommodation, school rooms used for the teaching of handicrafts, such as wood and metal work, had to be converted into ordinary class rooms. The teaching of handicrafts in primary schools has been replaced by light handwork activities.

The handicraft training programme of the Government Central School and Secondary schools has remained unaffected.

The change from woodwork and metal work to light crafts in the primary schools has now been completed.

The third secondary school for boys which opened early last year has inculded woodwork, bookcraft and basketry in its curriculum.

Many short courses in Art and Craft were held in the Primary School for the intention of in-service teachers.

School Broadcasts

This year fifteen-minute programmes for both Primary Schools and Secondary Schools were broadcast daily.

Of the five programmes for Primary Schools, two are of the " Things We Use " type, and they are intended for the two top classes, Standard V and Standard VI. Two simple B.B.C. productions are also used; they are: ' Write it down ', a series of progressive dictations with explanations, recorded at the B.B.C. and ' Listen and Write ', a series of conversations on gramophone records between two English children, a boy and a girl; each lesson leads to a written work.

In addition, every Friday, there is a News Magazine programme, covering topical subjects and items of civics, local history, great men, and so on.

The Lower and Upper Forms of the Secondary Schools each have two programmes per week, selected from the B.B.C. Colonial Schools Transcription Service productions. A news magazine programme is also broadcast on Fridays.

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Visual and Aural Education

The activities of the Visual Aids Section include the drawing up of weekly film show programmes for the Government and aided primary schools, giving previews of the films to teachers on Saturdays, going round the Government and aided primary schools to show the films, and distributing visual aid materials (filmstrips, picture sets, photographs) to those schools. This year the Mobile Unit again visited all primary schools, once in each school term, and a second operator visited Government and Approved Secondary Schools on a fortnightly basis. The Visual Aids Section was also frequently on call to provide public address facilities and recorded music on school and Youth Organisation outdoor occasions. During the School Certificate Examinations the Section was also responsible for playing back tape-recorded dictations in examination centres.

Music

The High standard reached in Class Singing was maintained during the year 1962. During his fifteen day's stay in Mauritius, Mr. John Williams examined successfully the 35 choirs from the Secondary Schools, of which 11 passed with Distinction and 9 with merit.

The practical grade examinations in piano, violin, singing and cello were taken by 106 candidates and the theory grade examinations by 68 candidates.

Class Singing is on the curriculum of all schools where accommodation is satisfactory and courses in Music for primary school teachers have been held.

The Teachers' Orchestra is making steady progress and the Teachers' Training College Choir presented a 15 minutes programme of Christmas Carols at the Mauritius Broadcasting Service on Christmas Day.

Further Education

Post-secondary continuation classes provide instruction on a fee-paying basis in commercial subjects (with a view to those enrolled taking the London Chamber of Commerce and Royal Society of Arts examination) and also in art, bookbinding, woodwork and weaving.

Science extension classes provide laboratory facilities for students reading for the G.C.E., Intermediate and Final B.Sc. examinations, and for local examinations in Pharmacy. The subjects studied are Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Botany and Zoology.

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Youth Organisations

Leadership training for young men and women has been organised during the year to ensure a steady influx of new leaders into the expanding Youth Service.

The Youth Organisation now covers the whole island and the six regional federations organise events on a district basis.

Elected repesentatives from the Federations are members of the Mauritius Youth Council which is the local body officially recognised by the World Assembly of Youth.

760 Clubs and Organisations provide facilities for approximately 36,000 young people between the ages of 15 to 25 years.

Expenditure

Expenditure on Education, during the financial year 1961-62 amounted to 23.53 million of which 20.66 million was recurrent and 2.87 million was capital expenditure. Recurrent expenditure represents very nearly 14 per cent of total Government expenditure of a recurrent nature.

Public Health

The medical services were administered until April 1962 by a Director of Medical Services assisted by two deputies. During that month the Department became integrated with the Ministry of Health and the post of Director Medical Services was abolished and replaced by that of Permanent Secretary.

(a) to investigate the influence of social, environmental and domestic factors on the incidence of human disease and disability;

(b) to plan and carry out measures for the promotion of health;

(c) to institute and maintain measures for the prevention of disease;

(d) to provide a quarantine service to prevent the introduction of infectious diseases by sea or air;

(e) to provide facilities for treatment of disease, including mental disease, by maintenance of hospital and dispensary services;

(f) to make provision for the rehabilitation of the disabled;

(g) to control the practice of medicine, dentistry and pharmacy;

(h) to provide facilities for the training of nurses, midwives, sanitary officers, etc.

(i) to advise local authorities regarding their health services and to inspect those services;

(j) to prepare and publish reports and statistical or other information relating to health.

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General Health

The improvement in health conditions during the past few years, as demonstrated by the following statistical figures, is one of of the most notable features in the recent history of the Colony. The figures for 1962 for the death rate and infantile mortality are the lowest on record.

Year	*Birth rate per 0/00*	*Death rate per 0/00*	*Infant Mortality rate per 0/00*	*Maternal Mortality rate per 0/00*
1938 ...	33·4	29·9	162·5	11·38
1943 ...	33·1	25·9	141·5	5·14
1950 ...	49·7	13·9	76·3	3·51
1955 ...	41·8	12·9	67·2	1·47
1956 ...	43·8	11·8	66·0	2·13
1957 ...	43·1	13·0	75·1	2·84
1958 ...	40·8	11·8	67·4	3·73
1959 ...	38·5	10·9	62·5	2·41
1960 ...	39·6	11.3	69.5	1.66
1961 ...	39·8	9·9	62.0	1·14
1962 ...	38·6	9·3	60·1	1.46

Malaria

Although malaria has ceased to be a public health problem since 1953, a plan for the final eradication of the disease is being implemented with the guidance and technical help of the World Health Organisation. The number of cases of malaria detected during the year was 226. The figures below indicate the fall in the death rate due to malaria.

Year	*Deaths ascribed to malaria*	*Rate per 0/00 population*	*Percentage of deaths due to malaria to total deaths*
1945 ...	3,534	8·34	23·13
1948 ...	1,580	3·58	15·02
1951 ...	285	0·59	3·95
1952 ...	188	0·37	2·52
1953 ...	61	0·12	0·73
1954 ...	27	0·05	0·32
1955 ...	3	0·00	0·04
1956 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1957 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1958 ...	1	0·00	0·01
1959 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1960 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1961 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1962 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil

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Infective and Parasitic Diseases

There has been an increase in the number of cases of Typhoid and a decrease in the incidence of Diptheria.

Year	*Deaths (ascribed to infective and parasitic diseases)*
1948 ...	4,052
1949 ...	1,603
1951 ...	863
1954 ...	665
1955 ...	311
1956 ...	354
1957 ...	416
1958 ...	315
1959 ...	263
1960 ...	403
1961 ...	320
1962 ...	223

Poliomyelitis

There was one mild case notified during the year in age group 35-39 years.

Enteric Fever

81 cases of enteric fever were notified, giving an incidence rate of 11.9 per 100,000.

Mortality Rates

Mortality from the principal groups of diseases is hereunder summarised:—

Group	*Number of deaths*		
	1960	*1961*	*1962*
(*a*) Infective and parasitic diseases	403	320	223
(*b*) Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs ...	413	349	281
(*c*) Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs	429	513	448
(*d*) Diseases of the circulation system	800	766	755
(*e*) Diseases of the digestive system	1,035	902	793
(*f*) Diseases of the respiratory system	798	666	688
(*g*) Certain diseases of early infancy	725	716	715

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Institutional Facilities

The institutional facilities which were available in 1961 are tabulated hereunder:

	No.	Beds
(a) *Government Institutions*		
1 General Hospitals	8	1,566
2. Dispensaries (including 2 in the prisons)	41	—
3. Outpatient departments of Hospitals	11	—
4. Specialized Units : –		
(*a*) Maternity and Child Welfare Centres	29	—
(*b*) Maternity wards in hospitals	7	131
(*c*) Leprosarium	1	61
(*d*) Mental Hospital	1	780
(*e*) Prisons Hospitals	2	46
(*f*) Tuberculosis (Emergency)	1	55
5. Mobile Units :—		
(*a*) Dispensaries	5 units	
(*b*) Ante-natal Clinic	1 unit	
(*c*) Dental clinic	4 units	
(b) *Private Institutions*		
1. Sugar estate hospitals	25	500
2. Sugar estate dispensaries	19	—
3. Nursing homes and clinics	5	89

There are 32 dispensarsies in the rural areas. In addition a Mobile Dispensary Service comprising five units caters for the needs of scattered villages and hamlets where it would be uneconomic to provide a static out-patient service.

The Ante-natal Service is supplemented by a Mobile Unit which visits 81 localities in the extra urban and rural districts.

Medical and Health Staff

	Government	*Private*
1. Registered Medical Practitioners	98	54
2. Dentists	8	24
3. Pharmacists	3	53
4. Nurses of senior training ...	11	—
Nurses in hospitals	259	—
Dressers in hospitals	287	—
5. Midwives (all categories) ...	73	—
6. Sanitary Inspectors	64	—
7. X-Ray Specialists	3	—
8. X-Ray Technicians	14	—

Expenditure on Health Services

Government expenditure on medical and health services in the financial year 1961-62 was Rs 17,426,996 or 11.17 per cent of the Colony's total expenditure for the year. This represented Rs 23.21 per head of the estimated population.

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Housing and Planning

Town and Country Planning

The introduction to Mauritius of Town and Country Planning was affected by lack ot topographical and Cadastral survey staff and equipment.

The essential liaison between Central and Local Government Authorities was difficult for the above reasons, and additionally so in the cases of the declared planning areas of Port Louis, Beau Bassin, Rose Hill, Quatre Bornes, and Curepipe, due to the delay in forming Local Planning Committees.

Draft recommendations for the Outline Schemes for the declared planning areas Nos. V and VI were prepared and considered, by the Local Planning Committees. The Committees' agreements on certain zoning proposals were circulated for comment to the Government departments concerned in order to summarised all aspects of the proposals and furnish the Board of Town and Country Planning with particulars and information required for the preparation of the Outline Scheme for part of both areas.

Reports and drawings were prepared in connection with the encouragement of new industries, better housing, the economic use of land, quality of building, provision of open spaces, and the relation of all development to Community Planning. Schemes were also prepared for Pas Geometriques Villages, Public Beaches, Campement Sites etc.

Day to day development advice and control became a logical and increasing responsibility, endangered in its effectiveness by lack of survey staff.

Housing

Construction work under the Cyclone Housing Scheme, 1960, continued throughout the year and by the end of December over 2,200 houses had been completed. On 25th October, 1962, His Excellency the Governor, Sir John Shaw Rennie, K.C.M.G., O.B.E., formally opened the housing estate at Vallijee, Port Louis. The temporary refugee shelters, erected immediately ofter the 1960 cyclones, are being dismantled as and when houses are allocated.

The Scheme itself was modified during the year in order to reflect the number of applicants who live in urban and rural localities and the number who own their own land. The total number of houses to be built for rent-purchase is 15,000 and up to 1,000 houses for rent. The monthly repayment, including land rent where applicable, over a period of 25 years, is

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Rs 25.50 in urban areas (with water-borne sanitation), Rs 23 in rural areas (with pit sanitation) and Rs 17.50 on private sites. The houses for rent are for persons living in refugee shelters who are unable to afford to purchase a house, the rent being Rs 7 per month. Victims of the cyclones *Beryl* and *Jenny* (December 1961 and February 1962) are also eligible for assistance under the Scheme. The Scheme will cost Rs 72,200,000 and is financed by Her Majesty's Government.

Cadastral Survey

Following the report submitted by Mr. L. S. Himely, F.R.I.C.S. on the Cadastral Survey of Mauritius, the Directorate of Overseas Surveys made available to the Colony the Services of an Assistant Surveyor, who worked in the Island during almost the whole year on tellurometer measurements of checklengths, the re-establishment of those 1934 triangulation stations that had been destroyed by cyclones and the addition of new stations in order to provide a denser network of control points. The calculations are being carried out at the Office of the Directorate. Young men in Mauritius are being selected to follow the Newbury Course in England to train them for cadastral duties which would enable work on a Cadastral Survey to be undertaken, should it be decided to carry out such a survey.

Public Assistance

Outdoor Relief

The basic organisation for the registration, investigation and adjudication of applications for outdoor relief, remained the same in 1962 as in 1961.

New applications received in 1962 amounted to 22,014 of which 17,347 were approved, while 16,454 allowances were withdrawn from the register during the year. The total number of cases on roll at 31st December 1962 was 22,375 as compared with 21,482 at the end of the preceding year.

The basic scale rates which were introduced in 1952 by the Outdoor Relief Committee (Darlow Committee) and altered in 1953, with effect from July, 1952, provided for an increase of Rs 1.50 per adult and Re 1 per child to meet changes in the cost of living. These scale rates were further increased early in 1958 by the same amount with effect from the 1st July, 1957.

The total amount disbursed on Outdoor Relief in 1962 was Rs 7,569,596.64 the average regular monthly payment being Rs 26.09 as against Rs 27.96 for 1961.

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CYCLONE HOUSING SCHEME

A view of Vallijee Estate at Cassis, near Port Louis.

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Relief in kind

The number and cost of blankets and flannel under-garments distributed to needy recipients of outdoor relief during the winter season in 1962 as compared with 1961, are as under:—

Year	*Blankets Units*	*Flannels Units*	*Total cost Rs*
1961	... 10,101	599	33,837.10
1962	... 5,063	1,767	22,829.65

In addition to these comforts, 959 pairs of spectacles and 108 lenses to the value of Rs 15,516.90 were also issued to recipients of Outdoor Relief and to Old Age Pensioners in 1962 on the recommendation of the eye specialist.

Workrooms

Work in lieu of relief continued to be provided in the work-rooms throughout the year to 44 persons mostly widows with large families. Their total earnings for the year on a piece-rate basis amounted to Rs 47,968.25 as follows:

	Rs
Lingerie (out-workers)	10,218.15
Sergerie and Uniforms (in-workers) ...	37,750.10
TOTAL ...	47,968.25

The average monthly earning was therefore Rs 90.85 per relief worker.

Indoor Relief

There was no addition in 1962 to the number of institutions providing indoor treatment.

The number of inmates in the infirmaries and orphanages at the end of 1962, including harmless mental patients transferred from the Brown Sequard Hospital, was as under:—

	Male	*Female*	*Total*
Infirm ...	330	346	676
Orphans ...	74	104	178

as compared with 632 infirms and 176 orphans at the end of the preceding year.

The capitation grant for both adults and children in the Charitable Institutions continued to be Rs 1.20 per head per day.

Outings to the sea-side for the benefit of the inmates were arranged as in the previous years and were, as usual, very much appreciated.

Frequent visits were paid in 1962 to the various institutions by members of voluntary organisations who distributed sweets and cigarettes to inmates and provided them with musical and other entertainment.

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Old Age Pensions

An old age pension of Rs 22 per month is payable to persons who qualify for such under the Old Age Pension Ordinance, 1951, as subsequently amended. 4,388 new cases were dealt with during the year of which 4,188 were granted. The cases turned down were mainly those in respect of persons not fulfilling the required statutory conditions in regard to residence. The number of old age pensioners at the end of 1962 was 29,356 and the total disbursements during the year amounted to Rs 7,720,270.80 as against Rs 7,504,930 in 1961.

Repatriation

Expenditure of Rs 6,109.11 was incurred in 1962 on the repatriation of 6 destitute Mauritians from abroad.

The number of repatriates on record at the end of 1962 was 98 and repayments amounting to Rs 5,199.31 were effected by liable parties during the year.

Relief to destitute Mauritians abroad

During the year, there were nine persons in receipt of " hard core " relief. The total amount disbursed in 1962 was Rs 8,669.24 as against Rs 7,816.13 the previous year.

Family Allowance

Following the recommendations of a Commission headed by Professor Titmuss of the London School of Economics to advise Government on the possibility of setting up a social security scheme in the Colony, a Family Allowance scheme has been introduced since January 1962.

All Mauritian families with three children under 14 years of age are, under the scheme, eligible for Rs 15 per month. Persons not born in the Colony but who have resided at least 2 years in the Colony are also eligible. Those liable to Income Tax are excluded from the scheme. The number of beneficiaries which was 43,978 at the inception of the scheme stood at 51,676 at the end of the year 1962 and the amount paid during the year was Rs 8,314,570.

By Proclamation No. 21 of 1962, the Family Allowance Scheme was extended also to Rodrigues in July 1962, where the number of beneficiaries at the end of December was 1,257, the total amount paid being Rs 112,950.

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Social Welfare

The Social Welfare Department was created in July, 1953, and was made responsible for social welfare and the Probation service which were previously the responsibility of the Public Assistance and the Judicial Departments. The Department works in close co-operation with other Government departments and voluntary social service organizations and is associated with the Ministry of Health and Reform Institutions.

In June 1958, a Social Development Board was set up to replace the Social Welfare Advisory Committee, its term of reference being to advise the Minister on all social development matters which he may refer to the Board, and to enlist the co-operation and co-ordinate the activities of all voluntary organisations in the field of social welfare.

Social Welfare Centres

There were 17 Social Welfare Centres, built or rented by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund Committee, in the rural districts. The first Government Social Welfare Centre built at Roche Bois on the outskirts of Port Louis was formally opened on 25th May, 1961. These 18 Centres play an important part in the development of community activities and in the general social education of the people in the rural areas. They also provide certain medical facilities. A maternity and child welfare service is attached to each centre and milk is distributed free while doctors, paid by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund Committee, attend to expectant and nursing mothers reporting to the centre. Arrangements have also been made for the provision of a midwifery services, 2 midwives have been attached by the Medical Department to each of 16 centres and in the remaining 2, the midwifery service is run under the technical supervision of the Medical Department out of funds provided largely by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund.

In all villages where they exist, social welfare centres are the focal points for afternoon and evening activities. Indoor games, sports, and listening to the radio are the main activities. In some centres there are formal literary classes, supplemented from time to time by debates and lectures. Film shows by mobile cinema units are a regular feature at each centre.

Agricultural demonstration plots have been set up at some social welfare centres with a view to teaching the local farmers how production can be increased by the adoption of modern methods of cultivation. Vegetable growers are also encouraged to organise themselves into Farmers' Clubs.

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Needlework and dressmaking classes are held at each centre for the benefit of the village girls.

Canteens, where non-alcoholic drinks are sold at a reasonable price for consumption on the premises, have been set up with a view to combating the evils of alcoholism.

The centres are managed by local committees, and conferences grouping the chairmen of these committees are held from time to time under the chairmanship of the Social Welfare Commissioner to co-ordinate the various welfare activities.

Welfare Months

To stimulate community activities the holding of welfare months at social welfare centres has proved to be a successful technique. During the month chosen, a health exhibition is held at the centre where officers of departments such as Agriculture, Health, Education, and Social Welfare give lectures and demonstrations to the people, drawing their attention to the problems of the village and suggesting solutions. Local women's associations, boys' clubs, co-operative societies and other welfare organizations are closely associated in the holding of these welfare months.

Women's Welfare

The development of women's associations is being encouraged, especially in the rural areas. The aim of these associations is to bring the women together to learn things which will be of help in their homes, to improve conditions in the village, and to develop a spirit of friendliness, co-operation and initiative. There were 74 associations registered with the Social Welfare Department at the end of 1962.

Most of these associations run a sewing class for the benefit of the girls of the village and there is also a fortnightly sewing class held by a dressmaker employed by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund. In some places a handicraft class is held.

Instead of a central exhibition of hand works, there was during the last months of the Year a sale-exhibition of works organised on a regional basis.

Voluntary Workers' Conference

The Social Welfare Department organises from time to time conference of voluntary workers to discuss ways and means of developing the rural areas and raising the standard of living.

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Anti-spitting Campaign

An island-wide anti-spitting campaign lasting a month was started in July 1960. Its result has been most encouraging as it has brought home to the general public the danger of indiscriminate spitting. In 1962 as a follow up a campaign of one week was carried out in July on the lines of the one organised in April 1961.

Treatment of Offenders

The probation system introduced in the Island in 1946 has made satisfactory progress. Probation applies to both juveniles and adults and it is worthy of note that more adults than juveniles pass through the hands of Probation Officers. A certain amount of social work connected with the Courts (e.g. settling matrimonial disputes, handling of difficult children), is also undertaken by Probation Officers, many of whom have been trained in the United Kingdom.

The Probation Service pays particular attention to the prevention of delinquency. One means adopted is to urge youths in villages to take advantage of the amenities available in social welfare centres and thus put their leisure to profitable use.

Probationers are required to report to Probation Officers in social welfare centres, where these exist, instead of going to the Court. In a Welfare Centre the Probation Officer can spend more time with the individual delinquent child and is in a better position to enforce rehabilitation measures than would otherwise be possible.

The first Probation Hostel for boys was opened in May, 1954. It is non-denominational and is managed by a representative committee. A new Probation Hostel building, much larger than the former one, but set up on the same site at Curepipe, was completed in March 1961. It can accomodate 20 boys. There were 17 boys at the end of the year in the hostel: they were regularly employed outside the hostel, half of their earnings going towards their keep. Voluntary workers help the management in regard to the education and health of the inmates.

The Warden of the Hostel is a fully trained Senior Probation Officer and his wife is acting as the House-mother.

In the field of after-care, Probation Officers help with the rehabilitation of juveniles released from the Industrial School and from Borstal.

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Chapter 8: Legislation

Thirty-eight Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council and assented to by the Governor during the year 1962. The most important of these Ordinances which deal principally with matters of domestic concern are:

The Cyclone and Drought Insurance Fund (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 1 of 1962)

The Cyclone and Drought Insurance Fund (Amendment No. 2) Ordinance
(No. 9 of 1962)

The first of these two Ordinances extends the time within which the Cyclone and Drought Insurance Board has to make a declaration that a crop year is a cyclone and drought year.

The second Ordinance gives effect to certain recommendations made as a result of an actuarial investigation of the Fund, the main ones being *(a)* the appointment of a Consulting Actuary *(b)* certain changes in the rate and time for payment of the premium *(c)* the division of the assets of the Fund into three separate accounts, namely the Cyclone Insurance Account, the Drought Insurance Account and the Administration Account, and *(d)* certain limitations on the time for making compensation claims and on the amount that can be paid as compensation.

The Ministry of Health (Integration) Ordinance
(No. 2 of 1962)

The Ministry of Health (Integration) (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 38 of 1962)

These two Ordinances provide for the integration of the Ministry of Health and the Medical and Health Department and the transfer to the Minister of the powers given to the Director of Medical Services under various enactments with respect to the making of regulations.

The Transcription and Mortgage (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 3 of 1962)

This Ordinance provides for the transcription of bonds entered into by members of Co-operative Societies for the purpose of better securing loans made, or credit opened, in their favour by such societies.

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The Technical Co-operation Agreements (Immunities and privileges) Ordinance
(No. 4 of 1962)

This Ordinance enables the Governor to exempt from certain taxes, duties and charges any Government (or its agents) which has entered into an agreement for technical co-operation with Her Majesty's Government, whenever such agreement is made applicable to Mauritius.

The Pas Geometriques (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 5 of 1962)

This Ordinance allows leases of Pas Geometriques in certain limited cases (connected with Cyclone Housing Schemes) to be held up to a period of ninety-nine years.

The Opticians (Registration) Ordinance
(No. 7 of 1962)

This Ordinance provides for the registration of opticians and regulates the practice of sight-testing and the dispensing of optical appliances. It also sets up and gives certain powers to an Opticians Registration Board.

The Central Housing Authority (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 8 of 1962)

The Central Housing Authority (Amendment No. 2) Ordinance
(No. 18 of 1962)

The first of these two Ordinances extends the benefits of a Cyclone Housing Scheme to tenants of houses damaged by a cyclone and exempts certain deeds drawn up in connection with such schemes from various duties. The second Ordinance modifies the constitution of the Central Housing Authority and subjects certain acts of the Authority to the approval of the Minister and of the Governor in Council.

The Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 10 of 1962)

This Ordinance provides that income derived from any trade, profession or employment shall be deemed to be in the income of the year in respect of which it was received or earned. It also revises the deductions allowable in respect of children and other dependants.

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The Sugar Industry Reserve Funds (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 13 of 1962)

This Ordinance extends to stevedores and harbour workers the benefits conferred by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund on workers employed by the Sugar Industry. It also increases the number of members on the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund Committee.

The Local Government Ordinance
(No. 16 of 1962)

This Ordinance consolidates the law relating to local government. It reproduces with certain amendments most of the existing legislation and incorporates several provisions of the Local Government Act of 1933, as well as following the pattern of the English Act in the distribution and treatment of its contents.

The Road Traffic Ordinance
(No. 22 of 1962)

This Ordinance consolidates and modernises the law relating to road traffic. It reproduces with certain amendments most of the existing legislation, but the opportunity has been taken to draw upon the Northern Rhodesia Roads and Road Traffic Ordinance as well as the Road Traffic Act, 1960.

The Executive Council (Transfer of Powers and Duties) (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 26 of 1962)

This Ordinance transfers to the Governor the powers of the Governor in Council to make regulations under the Public Service Commission Ordinance, 1953, in conformity with the provisions of the Mauritius (Constitution) Orders in Council, 1958 to 1962.

The Licences (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 28 of 1962)

The main purpose of this Ordinance is to abolish the taxes payable on carts and carriages drawn by animals.

The Sugar Industry Pension Fund (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 29 of 1962)

This Ordinance increases the benefits and advantages accruing to members of the Fund and provides *inter alia* that *(a)* the contribution of a member who continues to contribute after normal pension age shall be reckoned on his actual salary *(b)* a member having completed 20 years' service and retiring before the age of 40 may opt for a deferred monthly pension *(c)* the past service

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benefits of a member who is subsequently re-empoyed in the Sugar Industry shall be safeguarded and *(d)* a member retiring after 20 years' service on grounds of ill-health may opt for an immediate monthly pension.

The Registration Duty (Exemption) Ordinance
(No. 31 of 1962)

This Ordinance empowers the Minister of Finance to remit the whole or any part of the registration duty chargeable on a deed of agreement where in his opinion the agreement relates to an object or enterprise beneficial to Mauritius.

The Customs Tariff (Amendment No. 2) Ordinance
(No. 32 of 1962)
The Customs (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 33 of 1962)

The first of these two Ordinances, with a view to encouraging and promoting local industry, enables the Minister to remit or refund duty in the case of machinery, plant or apparatus imported for use in local manufacture. It further empowers the Governor in Council to make regulations providing for the grant of a drawback or remission of import or export duty in certain cases. The amendment made by the second Ordinance is consequential.

The Legislative Council (Saving of Membership) Ordinance
(No. 34 of 1962)

This Ordinance provides that certain offices shall not be deemed to be public offices for the purposes of the Mauritius (Constitution) Order in Council, 1958.

The Mauritius Housing Corporation Ordinance
(No. 36 of 1962)

This Ordinance establishes a Housing Corporation for the purpose of granting loans for the construction, reconstruction and repair of houses. The Corporation thus takes over the business hitherto carried on by the Mauritius Agricultural Bank in this respect.

The Breweries Ordinance
(No. 37 of 1962)

This Ordinance regulates the manufacture of beer in Mauritius. Provision is made *inter alia (a)* for the licensing of brewers *(b)* for control of manufacture and levying of duties by the Comptroller of Customs *(c)* for the appointment and revocation of warehouses and *(d)* for the protection of the health of consumers.

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Chapter 9 : Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

The laws of Mauritius are basically the old French Codes: the Civil Code, the Penal Code, the Code de Commerce and the Code of Civil Procedure, to which a number of amendments have been made from time to time to suit local conditions.

The Bankruptcy Law, the Company Law, the Law of Evidence and the Law of Criminal Procedure are, however, almost entirely based on English law. A number of imperial enactments are made applicable to Mauritius e.g. The Merchant Shipping Acts and other matters governed by Orders in Council. A large number of local enactments, based mostly on English Law or that of other colonial territories, govern a variety of subjects e.g. Labour Laws, Coinage, Official Secrets, Gambling Houses, Obscene Publications.

The highest judicial authority is the Supreme Court of the Colony of Mauritius and its Dependencies consisting of the Chief Justice, one Senior Puisne Judge and two Puisne Judges.

The Chief Executive Officer of the Supreme Court is the Master and Registrar who, in addition to other judicial functions, exercises jurisdiction in bankruptcy concurrently with the Judges of the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court is a superior Court of record and has the same powers (including equitable powers), authority and jurisdiction as the High Court of Justice in England. It exercises jurisdiction in divorce and probate matters, and also Admiralty jurisdiction in virtue of the Colonial Courts of Admiralty Act, 1890. It has powers of supervision over all the other Courts of the Colony and hears appeals from the Supreme Court of the Colony of Seychelles in civil matters.

Appeals lie to the Privy Council in certain cases from judgments of the Supreme Court.

The Judges of the Supreme Court preside over the Assizes, the verdict being returned by a jury of nine men, the decision requiring a majority of at least seven out of the nine members.

Since the 1st January, 1955, there has been set-up a Court of Criminal Appeal. The Chief Justice and the Judges of the Supreme Court are the Judges of that Court which is constituted by three Judges. That Court hears appeals from persons convicted before the Supreme Court.

Since the 1st August, 1960, a Criminal Court, styled the Intermediate Criminal Court, has been instituted to replace with enlarged jurisdiction the Bench of Magistrates, and to ensure more

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expeditious trials of important criminal cases. The Intermediate Criminal Court has concurrent jurisdiction with the Assize Court to try cases of Involuntary Homicide, Arson, Bigamy, and Procuring miscarriage which before the 1st August, 1960, were exclusively within the jurisdiction of the Assize Court. The Intermediate Criminal Court consists of three Senior Magistrates. It has jurisdiction to try criminal cases occurring all over the Island and has power to impose sentences not exceeding 5 years' penal servitude.

The District Magistrates of the Colony have jurisdiction in civil cases in which the subject matter does not exceed Rs 3,000 in value. They hold judicial enquiries in cases of fire or accidental death, and preliminary enquiries in cases triable by the Assize Court. In addition they deal with certain matters in Chambers.

The summary jurisdiction of a District Court in criminal matters is vested in a District Magistrate who deals with the less serious offences and is empowered to sentence an accused party to imprisonment with or without hard labour, for a term not exceeding one year, and to a fine not exceeding Rs 1,000.

In addition to the three Magistrates who sit on the Intermediate Criminal Court there are now 12 Magistrates of whom one administers justice in Rodrigues and is also Civil Commissioner for that Dependency.

A Visiting Magistrate inspects each of the Lesser Dependencies once a year.

There is in addition an Industrial Court which is presided over by a Magistrate and which has exclusive jurisdiction—subject to appeal or review—in all labour disputes including workmen's compensation cases and matters arising out of factory legislation and employment of certain categories of servants and other employees whose annual salary does not exceed Rs 6,000.

Administrative control of the Magistracy which hitherto was vested in the Head of the Legal Department has, since 1945, been transferred to the Chief Justice.

The majority of the civil cases brought before District Courts concern claims for money, or possession of tenement, or ownership of land.

On the criminal side, most of the cases, other than petty breaches of the law, relate to offences involving fraud, e.g. larceny, embezzlement, forgery, or swindling, or offences against the person, e.g., wounds and blows, indecent acts and assaults, or breaches of the road traffic laws.

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During the year 1962 five cases were brought before the Court of Assizes.

There were 596 civil cases entered before the Supreme Court as compared with 662 in 1961. 853 cases were entered before the Industrial Court as compared with 869 in 1961. 265 cases were entered before the Intermediate Criminal Court and 4,775 Civil Cases and 24,434 Criminal Cases were heard by the District Courts.

POLICE

Functions

The functions of the Mauritius Police Force are prescribed by section 14 of the Police Ordinance (Cap. 312). They include preserving the public peace, the prevention and detection of crimes, misdemeanours and contraventions, the regulation of road traffic, the execution of warrants and summonses issued by the Courts, and the conduct of prosecutions in Court.

In addition to their primary task of maintaining law and order, the Police are responsible for the control of immigration and emigration, weights and measures, the issue of certain licences and the collection of the fees therefor, the supervision of licensed premises, and other extraneous duties.

Strength

The Police Force consists of a Commissioner of Police, and of such Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Constables as the Legislature may authorise from time to time. The authorised establishment of the Force at the 31st December, 1962, was 35 Officers and 1,197 other ranks, inclusive of 31 Police Women and 2 Accounting Machine Operators; its actual strength was 34 Officers and 1,170 other ranks including 30 Police Women employed on clerical work and 2 Accounting Machine Operators.

Organization

The Commissioner of Police, assisted by the Deputy Commissioner of Police and other officers, has his Headquarters at Line Barracks in Port Louis.

The personnel of the Force is distributed between:

(a) Police Headquarters and the following Branches or Sections:

(i) The Forensic Science Laboratory
(ii) The Criminal Investigation Division
(iii) The Immigration and Passport Section
(iv) The Road Traffic Branch

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(v) The Transport and Communications Section
(vi) The Training School and Reserve
(vii) The Band
(viii) The Railway Police
(ix) The Water Police
(x) The Pay and Quartermaster's Branch
(xi) The Rodrigues Police Detachment.

(b) Six Police Districts, controlling 48 stations and posts.

The Forensic Science Laboratory

This important institution was set up in 1938 and maintains a high degree of professional competence. It is under the charge of the Police Medical Officer, who is assisted by a suitably trained staff. The Laboratory deals with the scientific examination of exhibits, and other aspects of crimes requiring scientific investigation.

The Criminal Investigation Division

This Division, which has its Headquarters in Port Louis and field staff attached to every District, is responsible for the investigation of serious crimes and cases of a special nature such as frauds and defalcations. It is also responsible for collating the statistics of crime for the whole Island. To the Central C.I.D. Headquarters are attached the Finger Print and *Modus Operandi Bureau*, the Central Records of Habitual Criminals, the Firearm Licences Section and the Bicycle Registration Section.

Finger Print and Modus Operandi Bureau

During the year, 156 scenes were visited by the Central C.I.D. staff and articles bearing finger prints were brought to the Finger Print Office by the District Police in 100 cases. Decipherable prints were found in 230 cases and 121 identifications were made. In 7 cases finger prints were the sole evidence available against the accused parties. In 20 cases documents bearing finger prints were referred to the Finger Print Office and in 1 case identity was established. The finger print slips of 18,400 criminals (male and female) are on record. The "Scene of Crime" collection contains 194 photographs of unidentified prints found at scenes of crime. The palm print collection contains 2,370 prints; 675 criminals are on the Findex System.

Photographic Section

The photographic work done by the section during the year was of valuable assistance: 10,003 photographs supplied by the section included 22 crime scenes and 101 scenes of fatal or serious

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accidents, 565 criminals were photographed and 5 dead bodies were photographed to assist identification. 540 photographs were also supplied for warrant cards issued to members of the Force, the Special (Mobile) Force and Special Constables.

Habitual Criminals

Supervision is maintained over habitual criminals and bad characters who are sentenced to police supervision by the Courts. There were 531 re-convicted male criminals in the Island; including 95 first offenders reconvicted during the year.

Firearms

Firearms are strictly controlled. The number of firearms licensed during the year was 5,768.

Handwriting

In conjunction with the Forensic Science Laboratory the C.I.D. carry out the examination of documents and the identification of handwriting and typewriting in relation to cases of forgery and kindred offences.

Other Duties of the C.I.D.

The Vice and Flying Squads of the C.I.D. among their other duties help throughout the Island to enforce the laws relating to dangerous drugs, gambling, prostitution, illicit distillation illegal transport and manufacture of rum and liquor, shop hours, distilleries, illegal slaughtering, private clubs etc.

Dangerous Drugs

A total of 132 cases under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance were prosecuted by the Police during the year, of which 107 were for possession of Gandia, 16 for cultivation of the plant, 9 for possession of prepared opium. 30,364 plants of gandia were uprooted and secured. 16½ kgs of gandia, 25 grams of gandia seed, 104 grams of prepared opium were secured.

The Immigration and Passport Section

During the year 3,034 passports were issued, 493 renewed and 170 visaed. 33 emergency certificates of nationality, 9 collective passports and 16 seaman's certificates of nationality and identity were issued and 39 forms of affidavit in lieu of passport were registered. The immigration staff attended 474 ships arriving in Port Louis and 406 aircraft at Plaisance Airport. 15,097 persons entered the Colony, including 197 immigrants and 15,877 left, including 1,083 emigrants.

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Road Traffic Branch

On behalf of the Road Traffic Licensing Authority the Road Traffic Branch carry out driving tests, issue drivers' licences and examine motor vehicles for fitness and roadworthiness: 9,427 vehicles were tested and 4,555 persons took driving tests of whom 1,673 were successful.

The number of registered motor vehicles increased from 14,446 in 1960 to 15,669 at the end of 1961 and 16,673 at the end of 1962. There were 2,799 accidents in 1962 as compared with 2,964 in 1961. The decrease in number of accidents compared with the over increasing volume of traffic on the road, results from the measures taken to ensure road safety and enforce the traffic laws including widening and surface repairing of roads, increased mobile and foot patrols, regular speed checks, education of drivers and pedestrians as well as lectures to 104,657 schoolchildren, the maintaining of 230,988 feet of traffic lines, the setting up of more traffic signs, traffic islands and roundabouts.

Transport and Communications Branch

The Transport and Communications Branch has under its control a Transport Unit and a radio-telephone network. The Transport Unit consists of:—

Motor Cycles	...	30
Land Rovers	...	20
Vans and Light Trucks	...	8 (including 1 mortuary van)
Prisoners' Vans	...	3
Lorries	...	9 (including a mobile canteen)
Motor cars	...	32 (including 25 W/T cars)
Cyclemasters	...	29 (including 25 Norman Light Motor Cycles)
Launch	...	1
Ambulances	...	2

The radio-telephone network operates on VHF. At the Information or Control Room, situated at Police Headquarters, are one 15-watt and one 50-watt VHF transmitter-receivers: the first set controls directly the W/T cars operating in the town of Port Louis and the second set acts as a link with two other 50 watt V.H.F. repeater stations situated at Piton and Trou aux Cerfs. The former links Port Louis with the North of the Island while the latter acts as a link with other repeater stations installed at Rivière des Anguilles, Rose Belle and Central Flacq. At each of these repeater stations there is a 15 watt set working in conjunction with the 50 watt link and transmits signals received through the 50 watt set to radio cars and Stations in the neighbourhood and vice versa, thus giving island-wide coverage; 25 Police Stations are now equipped with static sets.

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Apart from the post at Tombeau Bay all police stations and branches are linked by telephone. To enable rapid inter-communication between stations and Districts, P.B.X. are installed at Police District Headquarters with the exception of Port Louis District where the telephones of all the Stations and Police Offices in Port Louis are linked to the P.B.X. of Police Headquarters in Line Barracks.

Training

Recruitment for the Force is carried out by the Police Service Commission.

The Training School, which is a residential institution, aims at training members of the Force on the same lines as in the United Kingdom and at fostering in them such qualities as tact, patience, tolerance, good humour, initiative, and ability to rely on their own judgment and resources. Recruit training includes adequate instruction in laws, police duties and procedure, general knowledge, first aid, elementary drill, riot drill, physical training, self defence, and swimming. The recruits undergo theoretical and practical training, including station and street duties. Lectures on medical jurisprudence, first aid and hygiene are delivered by the Police Medical Officer.

The Band

The Mauritius Police Band, which was first established in 1921, is a full military brass band made up of trained musicians. In 1947 a dance orchestra was formed which has since been in regular demand at balls and social gatherings and for stage productions. The Band had 220 engagements, of which 61 were official and its total earnings amounted to Rs 31,657 which accrued to the Police Band Fund.

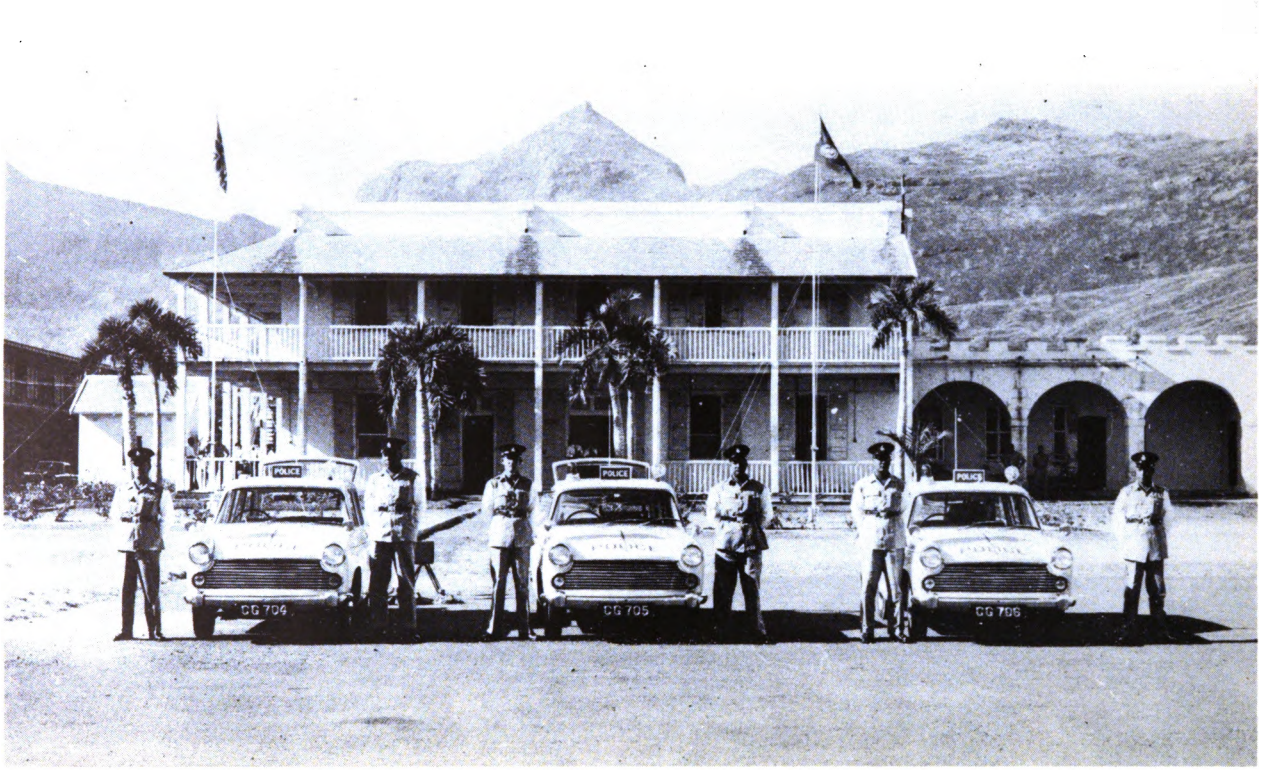
The Railway Police

An Inspector and seven Constables are attached to the Railway Department as a special force to deal with offences committed on the Railway.

The Water Police

The Water Police are under the orders of the Superintendent of Police, Port Louis. The Unit comprises one Sergeant and 9 Constables. It is equipped with a 100 h.p. motor launch fitted with a R.T. set.

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Police Headquarters, Line Barracks, Port Louis.

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The duties consist in maintaining law and order in Port Louis Harbour; preventing persons from stowing away, assisting in the enforcement of Immigration and Quarantine laws; supervising the unloading of cattle and goods and assisting the customs in the prevention of smuggling. During the year the Water Police attended 495 ships which entered the harbour.

The Pay and Quartermaster's Branch

This Branch is divided into two Sections: the Pay Section and the Store Section, the latter under the special charge of the Assistant Pay and Quartermaster. The Pay Section is responsible for all the financial transactions and accounting of the Force and for the collection of inland revenue. The Store Section deals with indents for materials, the manufacture and issue of uniforms for all ranks, and the supply of stores and accoutrements to the Force.

The Rodrigues Police

The Rodrigues Police, under the orders of an Asistant Superintendent, is responsible for maintenance of law and order in the dependency. The authorised establishment is one Officer and 32 other ranks. (Note: The island of Rodrigues is situated approximately 300 miles east of Mauritius).

Special Constabulary

In accordance with Section 47 of the Police Ordinance (Cap. 312) Special Constables may be appointed at any time. In 1962 the approved strength was 30 officers and 200 other ranks.

First Aid: St. John Ambulance Association

Courses of instruction in First Aid are given to members of the Force, the Government Fire Services, pupils of the Royal College and Municipal Fire Brigade. All lectures are delivered by medical officers or quaified lay lecturers. Examinations were held during the year and 675 members of the Police Force are now qualified and hold the St. John's First Aid Certificate.

A Mauritius Police Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, the Municipal Fire Brigade and the Royal College Cadet Division are registered at the Overseas Headquarters in the United Kingdom.

The Home Nursing Division, which was registered and approved on the 1st April, 1952, has a strength of 16.

Games, Recreation and Welfare

As much time as possible is devoted to the playing of games and to recreation generally. The Force possesses good football, basket ball, volley ball and hockey teams. Inter-district and friendly

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matches with local teams are frequently played. Boxing and swimming are practised.

The Officers, Inspectorate, N.C.Os, Constables and Police Women, each have their own mess and recreation rooms. A well-stocked canteen is open to all ranks of the Force. The Police Band contributes to official and demi-official functions in the various messes and institutions of the Force.

A library and reading room is open daily to members of the Force and to public subscribers. Books, reviews, and newspapers are regularly imported and are circulated throughout the Island and Rodrigues among members of the Force. The stock of English and French books in the library is 8,369.

A Police Federation of all ranks from Chief Inspector to Constable advises on matters concerning the welfare and efficiency of its members, other than matters of discipline and promotions affecting individuals.

Honours and Awards

The Colonial Police Medal was awarded to 4 members of the Force.

The Colonial Police Long Service Medal was awarded to 82 members of the Force, the 1st clasp to 8 members.

Offences

The number of offences reported to the Police in 1962 was as follows:—

Crimes	1,003
Misdemeanours ...	16,735
Contraventions	23,859
TOTAL ...	41,597

PRISONS

The principal duty of the Prisons Department is to maintain in safe custody the offenders delivered to its care. Subject to this, every possible effort is made to establish in them the will to lead an honest and useful life on release, and to fit them to do so through trade and character training.

There are four institutions in Mauritius dealing with persons received from the Courts:—

(a) Central Prison, Beau Bassin, which includes two Sections for adult female prisoners and industrial school girls respectively.

(b) Richelieu Rehabilitation Centre.

(c) Borstal Institution, Grand River North West.

(d) Industrial School, Barkly, Beau Bassin.

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Central Prisons

Beau Bassin Prison consists of two three-storey blocks with a capacity to accomodate about 600 prisoners in separate cells. With the enlarged cells about 1,800 prisoners can now be accommodated in case of emergency.

A Remand Block having 6 large communal and 6 separate cells with a capacity to accommodate 50 prisoners.

The other buildings consist mostly of Workshops where the following trades are taught: Carpentry and cabinet-making, Shoe-making, tailoring, tinsmithy, blacksmithy, basketry. Prisoners also carry out a concrete block making industry, the erection of new buildings and maintenance of existing ones.

The other important building is the Reception Centre, at which all male prisoners are received and discharged.

Female prisoners are admitted direct at the Female Prison. Repairs to the former administrative headquarters located in the Central Prison was completed during the year. The offices available were re-allocated. The building now provides for a legal advisers' room and a committee meeting room. The administrative head-quarters is still in the old residence of the Commissioner. Work on the erection of the new headquarters started during the year.

Within the men's prison at Beau Bassin there are six yards where prisoners can associate for meals and leisure. The classification and segregation arrangements are as follows:—

(a) Star Class	No. 3 yard
(b) Trainable Ordinaries ...	No. 4 yard
(c) Short Term Ordinaries ...	No. 2 yard
(d) Long Term Ordinaries ...	No. 1 yard
(e) Young Prisoners	No. 5 yard
(f) Remands and Trials ...	No. 6 yard

The classes are kept segragated as far as possible while at work. There is also in operation a grade system whereby a prisoner may by good behaviour pass succeessively from Probationary to 3rd, 2nd, and 1st Grade, each grade carrying certain privileges such as extra books, longer time in association, participation in games and outdoor sports activities, working without direct supervision.

A Hobbies and Handicraft scheme launched during the year 1961 met with initial success. Prisoners and inmates of all reform institutions voluntarily spend their leisure hours on various forms of handicrafts or hobbies with the aim of encouraging their creative instinct and keeping their mind occupied usefully. Two-thirds of the net profits realised go to the prisoners to give them the incentive to volunteer for these activities in their spare time.

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Young prisoners undergo Physical Training under a trained instructor every morning. Voluntary education classes are also held each evening under a qualified school Head Teacher attached to the department.

A cinema show is given inside the prison once a week, when films of topical and educational interest are shown. During week-ends the football pitch outside the prison is used by prisoners. Volley-ball and Basket-ball are also practised inside the prison walls after labour.

A number of public-spirited men and women continued to act as unofficial visitors to the Central and Female Prison. Each has a panel of prisoners whom he visits frequently.

The Female Prison was opened in May 1961. It adjoins the Central Prison but has a separate entrance.

Industrial School girls are now detained in that part of the Female Prison declared an Industrial School within the meaning of the Ordinance.

The Female inmates, who are very few in number, are taught sewing and gardening. Other crafts are also taught by unofficial visitors.

Discipline

During 1962, 8 reports were dealt by the Prison Board and 538 by the Commissioner and Superintendent of Prisons. There has been a general improvement in discipline during the past years and the earning scheme is largely responsible for this.

Borstal Institution

The Borstal Institution which provides minimum security has accommodation for about 125 youths. It is run on the lines of a United Kingdom Borstal Institution.

The inmates are classified into " ordinary ", " probationary " and " special " grades; there is also a penal grade for boys under punishment. Apart from being classified according to statutory requirements, the inmates are grouped into four houses, named after prominent persons, viz., Remy Ollier, Labourdonnais, Newton and d'Epinay, with a view to fostering in them a spirit of competition. As far as possible the selection is made in such a way that the good element predominates in each house.

A scheme whereby lads would be granted home leave during their training with a view to re-establish home relations and to afford them the opportunity to meet prospective employers was still under consideration at the end of the year.

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With a view to encouraging the inmates, after their release, to save money, a system has been introduced whereby the total earnings standing at the credit of an inmate prior to his release are deposited in the Post Office Savings bank and the savings book handed over to him on his release.

The lads receive daily instruction in carpentry, tinsmithing, tailoring, cooking and gardening. A Chain Link Fencing industry was introduced during the year under review. Compulsory educational classes run at elementary levels with emphasis on English, French and Arithmetic are held under a qualified teacher. Physical training classes are also held daily.

Educational films are shown and explained to the lads weekly and outdoor games are organised each evening. Lads of the special and probationary grades go to the seaside once a week to enjoy swimming. Football matches are played against outside teams.

During the year outings were organised at week ends. The Annual Camp was held at Cap Malheureux during the month of September.

The lads put on their usual Christmas Show an the 19th of December with the help of members of the staff.

A Borstal Visiting Committee meets monthly and, among other things, decides on questions of release.

Industrial School

The school has accommodation for about 200 boys and is run on the lines of an English Approved School. Boys up to the age of 18 years are catered for. The senior and junior boys are divided into houses named after prominent persons, but they are separately accommodated. A monthly "house" competition is run with points for conduct, cleanliness and upkeep of the house gardens.

All junior boys attend school daily for four hours under qualified teachers and receive primary school instruction up to the 5th standard. After the 5th Standard, boys who are still of school age attend an ordinary Government primary school. Senior boys who are illiterate attend school three evenings a week.

All boys do daily physical training under a qualified instructor and in addition take part in organised games. Films of educational value are shown and commented on by the Visual Education Officer and lectures on citizenship, forestry, electricity and animal husbandry have been given by experts who have offered their services to help the boys. Instruction in tinsmithing, brushmaking, shoemaking, carpentry, cooking and gardening is given to the boys in accordance with their aptitudes.

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The Annual Camp was held at Cap Malheureux during the second half of September.

A Sports day for the inmates was held on 11th August. The lads put on their Christmas show on the 21st December.

An Industrial School Visiting Committee meets monthly and among other things, decides on questions of release.

Richelieu Rehabilitation Centre

The Rehabilitation Centre at Richelieu designed for long and short terms offenders was opened on the 1st of July 1958. Most of the buildings have been completed and brought into use. By the end of the year the population at the Centre was 76.

In view of the excellent response to treatment in the open more responsibility was put on the inmates by the introduction of a " Camp Captain " and a " leader system ". The result has so far been encouraging.

More land has been brought under cultivation and four acres of land planted with fruit trees.

Animal farming is now firmly established at the Centre. My thanks go to the Director of Agriculture for the unreserved co-operation in the establishment of the above project. This not only provides a training to the inmates in the elements of simple animal rearing but it is also a source of revenue.

The Centre is provided with a 12 H.P. ' Lister ' Generating plant capable of supplying electricity to all buildings in case of interruption of the normal supply.

Another stone crusher was installed at Richelieu Rehabilitation Centre during the year. The stones are now crushed at the Centre to feed the block-making and building industries with macadams .

All the dormitories are provided with canvas beds and lockers, a W.C. is installed in each dormitory for night use.

The Kitchen is provided with four Alfa Pressure Cookers, Concrete swills and tables, modern washand basins with taps and a provision store.

The dining room adjoins the kitchen and works on the " Cafeteria " system as in the United Kingdom.

Religious and educational facilities are afforded to the inmates. At Christmas with the help of the staff, they put up a variety show much enjoyed by the visitors.

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Chapter 10: Public Utilities and Public Works

Central Electricity Board

Electricity

Reconstruction work following cyclone "Jenny" was completed during the year. This was a set-back which caused th Board to restrict its development. It is hoped that, if there are no cyclones, the Board will be in a position to re-start development in 1963.

Work on Cascade Cecile hydro-electric scheme has been nearly completed, and the station will be commissioned early in 1963. It will provide a maximum capacity of 1,000 KW. Civil works have started on the new Fort Victoria Thermal Station, which is expected to start generating at the beginning of 1964.

In addition to cyclone reconstruction work the Board has concentrated on the strenghthening of its distribution network with a view to reduce losses.

Consumers totalled 54,150 at the end of the year, an increase of 4,443 or 8.9 per cent over the previous year. Sales of electricity totalled 57.7 Million Units, compared with 43.87 Million Units for the previous year, representing an increase of 31 per cent on 1961. This is mainly due to the consumption of the Admiralty. Units generated amounted to 76.9 Million Units, including purchases from Sugar Estates.

The total installed capacity of all plant, and units generated during the year 1962 were as follows:—

	Kw		*Units*	
Hydro:—				
Eau Bleue	4,000		7,913,900	
Tamarind Falls	8,000		25,764,020	
Réduit	600		2,124,762	
Magenta	940		5,010,010	
Cascade Cécile* ...	—		—	
La Ferme	1,200		3,912,360	
Riche-en-Eau	200		608,560	
Bois Chéri	100		102,230	
		15,040		45,435,842
Thermal-C.E.B.:—				
St. Louis	16,000		19,435,860	
Sack Factory	550		32,660	
		16,550		19,468,520
Thermal-Sugar Estates:—				
St. Antoine	1,220		1,219,400	
F.U.E.L.	4,000		5,678,880	
Savannah	1,500		2,567,450	
Medine	1,500		1,723,200	
Belle Vue (Mauricia)	1,200		1,215,600	
		9,420		12,404,530
TOTAL ...		41,010		77,308,892

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WATER SUPPLIES

Domestic Water Supplies

The principal sources of Domestic Water Supplies are Mare-aux-Vacoas, Grand River North West, Piton du Milieu, La Nicolière and Rivière des Galets.

The Mare-aux-Vacoas Water Supply is derived from a storage reservoir whose capacity of 597 million cubic feet has been increased to 975 million cubic feet by the raising of the dam. The reservoir is situated at an elevation of 1,850 feet above sea level and serves about half the population of the island in the districts of Plaines Wilhems, Moka, Black River, part of Port Louis, and the upper parts of Grand Port and Savanne. Prior to distribution the water is filtered through slow sand filters at an elevation of 1,640 feet above sea level and chlorinated, the supply to the higher parts of Plaines Wilhems and Grand Port—Savanne being pumped partly by hydraulic power and partly by electric power. The quantity supplied to domestic consumption for the year ending 30th June, 1962, averaged 10,990,000 gallons per day. This is less than the quantity consumed in 1959-60 owing to restrictions in the supply on account of the drought which prevailed in 1961, until October.

The Grand River North West water supply is derived from the river of that name at an elevation of about 250 feet above sea level. The supply amounts to 8,000,000 gallons per day. It is managed by the Municipality of Port Louis and serves exclusively the town of Port Louis with a population of about 90,000. The water is filtered and chlorinated before use. Works completed in 1961 provide for an increase of the supply to 13,000,000 gallons per day.

The Piton du Milieu Water Supply is derived from a storage reservoir of 110 million cubic feet, situated at an elevation of 1,435 feet above sea level and serves a population of about 150,000 inhabitants in the districts of Pamplemousses, Rivière du Rempart, Flacq, Moka and the lower parts of Grand Port—Savanne. The water is filtered through rapid sand filters at an elevation of 1,385 feet having a capacity of 4,000,000 gallons per day. The water is chlorinated after filtration.

The Piton du Milieu supply is supplemented in the districts of Pamplemousses and Rivière du Rempart by the La Nicolière Water Supply which provides 1,000,000 gallons per day derived from springs above La Nicolière at an elevation of 1,040 feet. The water is at present filtered through rapid sand filters and chlorin-

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ated. The filters were put in operation at the end of 1961. In the district of Savanne the Piton du Milieu supply is supplemented by the Rivière des Galets water supply which is derived from the Rivière des Galets at an elevation of 825 feet and provides 400,000 gallons per day. The water is at present filtered and is to be chlorinated. The filters of the slow sand type were put in operation in 1961.

Irrigation

Irrigation is carried out in the Black River District from La Ferme reservoir and Magenta Canal Systems and in the Districts of Pamplemousses and Rivière du Rempart from La Nicolière reservoir.

La Ferme reservoir at an elevation of 450 feet above sea level, has a capacity of 417 million cubic feet and serves to irrigate at present 1,500 acres. Additional supplies are being derived from Mare-aux-Vacoas, Mare Longue and Tamarind Falls reservoirs by means of the Magenta Canal (completed in 1954) which irrigates a further 2,500 acres.

La Nicolière reservoir, at an elevation of 800 feet above sea level, has a capacity of 200 million cubic feet and serves to irrigate about 1,000 acres of land. The reservoir is linked to Midlands by the Midlands—La Nicolière Feeder Canal 17 miles long.

Hydro-Electric Power

Water for hydro-electric purposes is supplied from three reservoirs:

(a) the Mare-aux-Vacoas reservoir mentioned above;

(b) the Mare Longue reservoir of a storage capacity of 200 million cubic feet at an elevation of 1,900 feet;

(c) the Tamarind Falls reservoir of a storage capacity of 72 million cubic feet at an elevation of 1,625 feet above sea level.

The three reservoirs are situated in the catchment area of the Tamarind river and supply water to a power station situated at 960 feet below the Taramind Falls reservoir. After going through this power station, water passes through the Magenta power station 150 feet lower down and thence into Magenta Canal for irrigation purposes in the Black River district.

Work on the hydro-electric project at Eau Bleue was started early in 1955 and completed in 1961. The scheme consists in an earth dam of approximately 8.65 million cubic feet providing a storage of 220 million cubic feet of water. The site of the reservoir

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is on River Eau Bleue near Midlands. A fall of 600 feet is available between the reservoir site and Le Val where the power station is situated. The Reservoir and Power Station have been put into operation in 1961.

The power station has an installed capacity of 4,000 KW and 10,231,000 KWH units were generated from 1st July 1961 to 30th June 1962. A Feeder Canal from Grand River South East to Eau Bleue Reservoir was completed in 1960 and the power output can further be increased to 13 million units by diverting other rivers into the reservoir. Electricity is also produced at La Ferme Power Station which utilises the inflow into La Ferme reservoir from the feeder channel over a fall of 400 feet.

PUBLIC WORKS

The former Public Works and Architectural Departments were integrated with the Ministry of Works under the control of the Minister of Works and Internal Communications. The Ministry is responsible for the maintenance and/or construction of (i) all Government works in connexion with water supplies, roads, bridges, quays and machinery at the Harbour and (ii) Government buildings.

The Ministry acts as Adviser to the other Ministries and Government Departments on matters connected with works.

The supply of materials from overseas was regular during the year.

Maintenance work was also carried out without any difficulty.

METEOROLOGY

The Meteorological Department provides for all climatological and weather services for the colony and for international requirements. Six main reporting stations regularly provide full observations from each of the four scattered groups of islands forming the Dependencies and from the airfield and the central plateaux in Mauritius. These observations are broadcast seven times daily to Africa, Asia and Australia. About 4,000 weather reports are collected each year from ships at sea.

The administrative services of the Meteorological Department and the climatological and upper air sections are located at the headquarters at Vacoas. In addition a hurricane warning centre is operated there when a hurricane warning period is declared for either Mauritius or Rodrigues.

The main forecasting office is at Plaisance Airfield, 19 miles from Vacoas. The increase in both scheduled and non-scheduled air operations continued during 1962.

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The forecasting office maintains a twenty-four hour forecast service. The surface weather maps, drawn four times daily cover, as far as possible, the whole of the Indian Ocean and surrounding continents between 15°N and 50°S. Upper air charts are drawn twice daily. Forecasts for aircraft flights to the African, Asian and Australian continents and for ocean going vessels, as well as for local purposes, are issued from the Plaisance office.

In addition to the main reporting stations the Department maintains or co-operates with other local authorities in maintaining, three minor reporting stations at Port Louis Harbour, Flat Island, and Peros Banhos Island, 250 rainfall stations, twenty sunshine recorders and six local recording anemometers to obtain records mainly required for local purposes. Although numerous and varied enquiries from local and overseas authorities were dealt with, the main emphasis in climatology has continued to be laid upon the requirements of agriculture, hydrology and constructional engineering.

Mauritius is a Member of the World Meteorological Organisation and also plays its part in other international organizations, such as the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy and the International Civil Aviation Organization.

The Granary

The Granary, which was completed in 1933, is a two-storeyed building of ferro-concrete and brick and covers an area of 1½ acres. It adjoins a Lighter Quay, 389 feet long, served by six electrically-operated hoists which lift bagged grain from lighters at the quay to the top floor of the building, which is operated as a Customs transit shed. From the top floor grain is delivered by gravity chutes to the first and ground floors which are divided into twelve and six separate stores respectively. Other gravity chutes connect the first floor with the delivery yard at the rear of the building.

The Granary Ordinance (Cap. 64) prescribes that all grain (which includes rice, dholl, lentils, gram, peas and other cereal which may be declared grain for that purpose by Proclamation), shall be discharged from ships to lighters and conveyed to the Granary for storage. The Ordinance limits the amount of grain which may be stored elsewhere than at the Granary.

The building was designed and erected with the object of protecting grain against contamination and destruction by pests, particularly rodents, and all entrances, exits and personnel lifts are operated with this in view.

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All grain is stored in the Granary in bags: there is no bulk storage. Pest infestation is prevented as far as possible by spraying insecticide by means of an apparatus provided for that purpose. To this may be added the dusting of the stores by means of *Malathion*, a new "insecticide" which has been recommended by the Agricultural Department. Measures against white ants and termites are carried out by a local firm under contract and stores are regularly fumigated by the Health Ministry.

After allowing for passages necessary for the effective use of the disinfecting apparatus, storage capacity is sufficient for approximately 450,000 bags of grain.

The Granary Department, which is responsible for the administration and maintenance of the building, is under the control of the Granary Superintendent who is also the Comptroller of Customs. Handling and stacking of grain is carried out by contract labour. During the year 1961–62, 57,531 tons of rice and 4,568 tons of other grain were handled.

Government Fire Services

The functions of the Fire Services are prescribed in Section 4 of the Fire Services Ordinance (No. 56 of 1953) and consist in taking all available measures with a view to extinguishing fires and to protecting life and property in case of fires in any area except the District and Town of Port Louis, where the Municipal Council is the responsible authority.

The Department comprises an administrative office in Port Louis and seven fire stations at Curepipe, Rose Hill, Quatre Bornes, Rivière des Anguilles, Mahebourg, Piton and Flacq which was opened on 17.1.62. On the 31st December, 1962, the staff was composed of 1 Controller (part time, 1 Office Supervisor, 1 Chief Officer, 1 Deputy Chief Officer, 2 Station Officers, 21 Sub-Officers, 24 Leading Firemen, 161 Firemen and a clerical staff of six.

The number of fire calls attended to was 278, compared with 277 in the previous year. The loss caused by fire, excluding Port Louis district, was estimated at Rs 603,817 compared with Rs 411,829 in 1961. Appliances on fire calls covered 7,008 vehicle miles.

Within the area covered by the Service there were at the end of the year 1,092 fire hydrants, including 38 new hydrants installed during the year.

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The number of requests for the attendance of firemen during performances of stage plays was 124 and the attendance fees collected during the year amounted to Rs 2,399.

In accordance with Regulation 4(2) of the Inflammable Liquids and Substances Regulations (Government Notice No. 179 of 1953) 37 certificates were issued by th Controller of Fire Services respecting the adequate protection of Filling Station premises against fire.

Fire appliances in nearly all Government buildings and cinema halls were tested.

Twenty-eight requests for pumping on sugar estates and private premises were attended to and fees for these attendances amounted to Rs 2,072.07.

The average cost per man in the Service during the year was Rs 4,716 while the cost of the Service per head of population (excluding the inhabitants of Port Louis) was Rs 1.83. The total revenue collected in 1961–62 was Rs 40,695.

The mobile appliances with which the various fire stations were equipped included 9 fire engines, 4 large and 15 small trailer pumps, 7 water lorries, 2 cars, 1 van, 1 lorry, 2 foam vans, 7 hose carriers, 3 Land Rovers, 1 " Scooter " motor cycle and 1 bicycle.

The Rodrigues Fire Station is under the Command of a Sub Officer assisted by a Fireman and a number of volunteers. The station is equipped with 1 Land Rover, 1 large and 2 small trailer pumps and 3 water trailers.

Mr. H. M. Smith, C.B.E., M.I. Fire E, H.M. Chief Inspector of Fire Services, came to the Colony in November 1962 to advise Government on the proper organisation and development of the Mauritius Fire Services.

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Chapter 11: Communications

Shipping

Port Louis, the capital of the Island, is also the only port. Ten ocean-going and four small vessels can be accommodated at any one time.

Vessels are normally moored at buoys in the harbour, though two quays are available, one of 492 feet and able to take a vessel of 30 feet draft and one of 390 feet for vessels of drafts up to 17 feet. Both coal and oil bunkers are available in limited quantities; there is a good supply of fresh water.

Regular cargo services are provided from the United Kingdom by the British and Commonwealth Shipping Company Limited, and from Continental and French Mediterranean ports by the French companies *Messageries Maritimes* and *Nouvelle Compagnie Havraise Peninsulaire*. The Scinda Steamship Co. operates a cargo service from Bombay to Mauritius and West Africa.

The Dutch *Royal Interocean Line* vessels call at Port Louis regularly on the Far East, South Africa and South America service, thereby providing a regular passenger and cargo service to and from the Far East and South Africa. Passengers wishing to travel to the United Kingdom usually tranship from the Dutch vessels to the Union Castle Line at Durban.

A total of 519 vessels entered Port Louis harbour during the year with a total net registered tonnage of 1,543,386 Tons. Of these 139 were British, 70 Dutch, 79 French, 84 Japanese, 29 Norwegian, 21 Greek, 10 Swedish, 11 U.S.A., 15 South African, 5 German, 7 Indian, 5 Liberian, 15 Malagasy, 4 Panamanian, 8 Israeli, 3 Lebanese, 3 U.S.S.R., 3 Ethiopian, 1 Danish, 1 Italian, 1 Swiss, 3 Nationalist China and 2 from Monaco.

There are two small vessels on the local register. One of them is employed on services to the dependencies of Mauritius and the second, M.V. "Mauritius", a 1,157 NRT cargo and passenger liner, is employed on runs to the dependencies, Madagascar, South and East Africa and Australia. These vessels have a combined net registered tonnage of 1,282.

During the year, 4,022 passengers entered the Colony by sea and 4,168 left the Island.

Civil Aviation

Mauritius is served by the International airport situated at Plaisance, at the South East of the Island, some five miles from Mahebourg. It is managed and operated by the Department of Civil Aviation of the Mauritius Government. There are no other airfields nor are there any locally registered aircraft or operators.

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Scheduled air services are operated by the following airline Companies:—

Air France, which operates two services a week on the Paris-Mauritius route (one through Cairo, Nairobi, Dar-es-Salaam, Tananarive, Reunion and return and the other through Rome, Cairo, Nairobi, Tananarive, Reunion and return), and an additional weekly service Tananarive-Mauritius *via* Réunion and return,

Qantas which operates a fortnightly service Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Cocos, Mauritius, Johannesburg and return,

South African Airways which operates a fortnightly service Johannesburg, Mauritius, Cocos, Perth and return, and

B.O.A.C. which operates a weekly service on the route London, Rome, Khartoum, Nairobi, Mauritius and return

RAILWAYS

The public railway system of Mauritius (4'—8½' gauge) is operated by the Government. The railway network has 68 miles of line varying between sea level and an altitude of 1,800 feet. By law heavy goods (manufactured sugar, fertilizers,(coal and guny bags) must be transported by the Government, certain estates being however exempted. The last of the regular passenger services by rail was run on the 31st March, 1956.

The deficit on the working of the railways amounted to Rs 494,870 for the financial year, 1961-62.

Statistics for the financial year ended 30th June, 1961, are as follows:

Length of line open to traffic	Miles	68
Goods Traffic :		
Sugar	Tons	418,216
Sugar Canes	Tons	1,114
General Merchandise	Tons	51,035
Goods Traffic Receipts :		
Sugar	Rs	3,228,252
Sugar Cane	Rs	1,504
General Merchandise	Rs	252,039
Train Mileage	Train Miles	106,206
Receipts per Train Mile	Rs	35,84
Expenditure per Train Mile	Rs	41,75
Road Motor Service:		
*Total Passenger Vehicle Miles ...	Vehicle Miles	73,830
*Passengers carried	Number	187,186
*Passenger Receipts	Rs	48,703
Parcels carried	Number	126
Parcels receipts	Rs	38
Goods Traffic:		
Sugar	Tons	32,357
General Merchandise	Tons	8,545
Goods Receipts :		
Sugar	Rs	203,203
General Merchandise	Rs	50,280
Number of road vehicles in service:		
10 lorries and 8 trailers		

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Roads

Mauritius is provided with an extensive road system, consisting of some 807 miles of public main and branch roads, most of which are suitable for motor traffic. All the roads are metalled and about 521 miles are tarred. Practically all the main roads are open to heavy motor vehicles, but owing to the rapid development of road traffic during the past twenty years many of the roads are too narrow for moderately fast transport to operate in safety. There are also some blind corners and very populous villages to travel through while the roads are further congested by slow-moving goods transport and by buses.

Many of the existing roads are of too light a construction for the volume and weight of traffic which they now carry. Maintenance problems are accordingly increasing.

Improvements were carried out to some of the existing tarred surfaces. In 1962 an additional 21 miles of road was asphalted.

The Ministry of Works and Internal Communications is responsible for the maintenance of proclaimed roads and District Councils for the maintenance of unproclaimed roads.

Road Transport

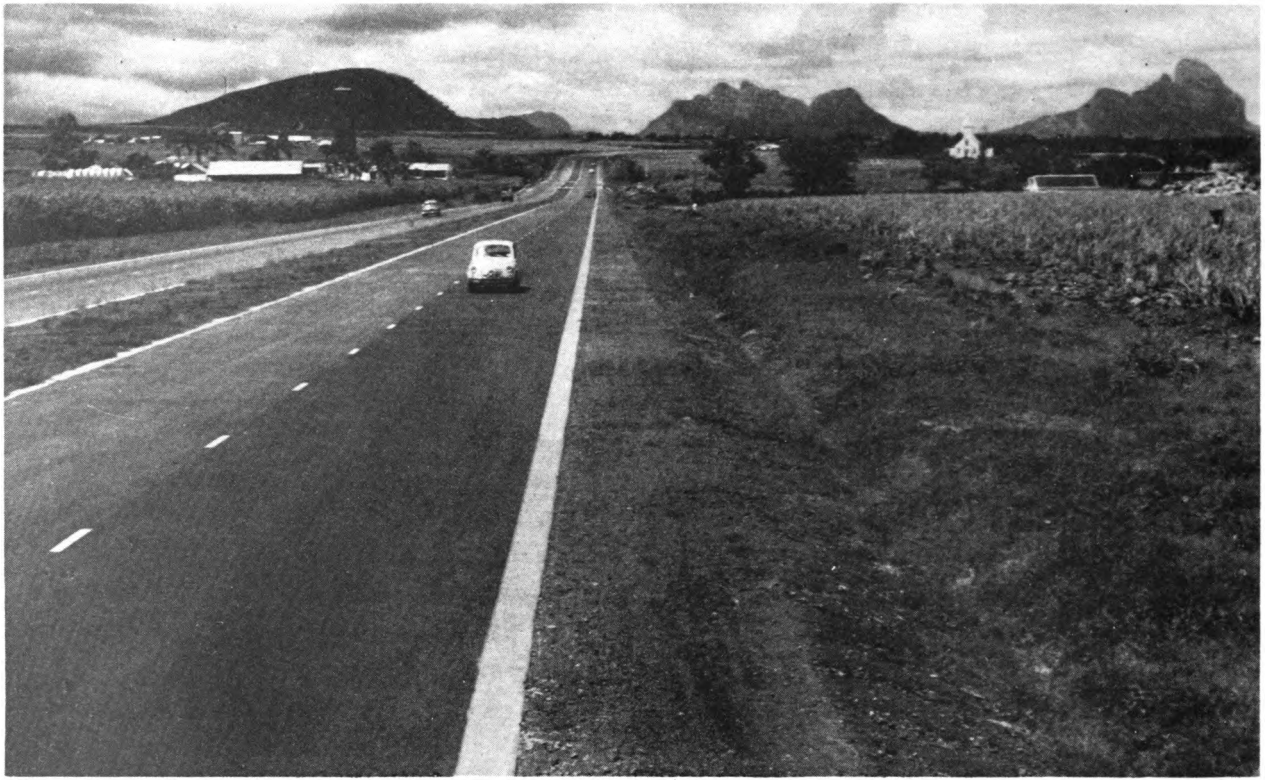
There were 16,673 motor vehicles registered in the island in 1962 as compared with 15,669 in 1961 classified as:—

	Private Ownership	*Government Ownership*
Private Cars	8,860	50
Taxi Cars	1,194	—
Lorries	2,470	179
Buses	618	17
Cycles	1,400	64
Tractors and Dumpers ...	328	113
Jeeps	121	71
Vans	1,034	87
3-Wheelers	29	—
Road Rollers	17	11
Foam Tenders	—	3
Cranes	—	7
	16,071	602

The public bus fleets had increased to a total of 498 vehicles in use at the end of 1962. An average of 154,297 passengers travelled daily by bus.

There were 3,515 goods vehicles in use in 1962—an increase of 494 over the preceding year's figure. They are used mainly in connexion with the sugar indusry for conveying cane to factries and other materials to sugar estates.

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A section of the new trunk road from Bell Village, Port Louis, to Phoenix.

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VEHICLE LICENSING

The quarterly licence duties payable in respect of motor vehicles are as follows:

	Rs c
1. Motor cycles (with or without sidecar) :—	
(a) not exceeding five horse power	7 50
(b) exceeding five horse power, for each unit or part of a unit of horse power	1 50
2. Private Cars :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	30 00
(b) exceeding ten horse power ... ... together with an additional amount of Rs 3.50 for each unit or fraction of a unit of a horse power in excess of ten.	35 00
3. Taxis :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	27 00
(b) for every additional horse power or fraction thereof	2 00
4. Buses having a seating capacity for more than twenty passengers :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	153 00
(b) for every additional horse power or fraction thereof	2 00
Buses having a seating capacity for not more than twenty passengers :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	128 00
(b) for every additional horse power or fraction thereof	2 00
Buses having a seating capacity for not more than sixteen passengers :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	78 00
(b) for every additional horse power or fraction thereof	2 00
Buses having a seating capacity for not more than eleven passengers :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	48 00
(b) for every additional horse power or fraction thereof	2 00
Buses having a seating capacity for not more than seven psssengers :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	38 00
(b) for every additional horse power or fraction thereof	2 00
5. Private Carrier's (other than tractors and trailers) :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	75 00
(b) exceeding ten horse power ... ... together with an additional fee of Rs 3.50 for each unit or fraction of unit of horse power in excess of ten.	87 50
(c) per metric ton of maximum gross weight or fraction thereof :—	
(i) where the horse power of the vehicle does not exceed ten horse power ...	15 00
(ii) where the horse power of the vehicle exceeds ten horse power	17 50

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VEHICLE LICENSING—*Continued*

	Rs. c
6. Public Carriers :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	112 50
(b) exceeding ten horse power ... ... together with an additional fee of Rs 3.50 for each unit or fraction of a unit of horse power in excess of ten.	131 25
(c) per metric ton of maximum gross weight or fraction thereof :—	
(i) where the horse power of the vehicle does not exceed ten horse power ...	15 00
(ii) where the horse power of the vehicle exceeds ten horse power ...	17 50

Payment of licence duty in respect of motor vehicles may be effected quarterly or yearly at the owner's option.

No licence fee is charged on a private car or motor cycle for a short stay in the Colony not exceeding one week.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

The Posts and Telegraphs Department is responsible for the postal and telegraph services of the Colony and operates the Post Office Savings Bank. It also acts as an agent for a number of Government departments in so far as the collection of certain revenue and the making of certain payments are concerned. The Money Order Service is available for nearly all parts of the world, and the British Postal Order Service for most Commonwealth countries.

The main Post Office is in Port Louis. There are besides 32 post offices and 43 postal agencies spread throughout the island and all class of postal and telegraph business are transacted. Postal facilities are also available in Rodrigues.

Air mail connection with all parts of the world is maintained by means of the services operated by *Air France, British Overseas Airways Corporation, Qantas Empire Airways* and *South African Airways*.

Air mail postage rates are charged on weight units of 5 grammes. The air mail postage rate to Europe and to India and Pakistan, the principal destinations of the Colony's outward correspondence, is 60 cents for 5 grammes. The Aerogramme or Air Letter Service operates to all destinations at the uniform rate of 35 cents.

The number of postal items handled during 1962 was approximately as follows:

Air mail	3,882,600
Overseas surface mail	1,045,800
Inland mail	8,106,300

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Mauritius is linked to the rest of the world by cables and by radio installations (including radiotelephones with most parts of the world) which are operated and maintained by Cable and Wireless Limited. The Company has an office, a cable station and a radio station in Port Louis, and a cable station and a radio installation in Rodrigues. The major part of the overseas telegraph traffic concerns Port Louis and outward and inward telegrams from or for the Capital are accepted, for transmission or delivery, direct by Cable and Wireless Limited. Elsewhere, overseas telegrams are received at post offices and transmitted over land lines operated by the Posts and Telegraphs Department to the General Post Office in Port Louis, for outward transmission by Cable and Wireless; inward telegrams received by Cable and Wireless Limited are similarly transmitted by the General Post Office over the land lines to post offices for delivery.

There are 153 miles of inland telegraph lines and the number of inland telegrams handled during 1962 was 10,811 as compared with 10,200 during 1961.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The island is served by 17 telephone exchanges located at the following centres:

Manuel Exchanges : Curepipe and Vacoas.

Automatic Exchanges: Port Louis, Rose Hill, Moka Rose Belle, Mahebourg, Centre de Flacq Souillac, Pointe aux Sables, Rivière des Anguilles, Mapou, Pamplemousses, Plaisance, Quartier Militaire, L'Escalier and Nouvelle France.

At the close of the year there were 6,837 exchange lines and 9,973 telephone stations connected to the public network. The number of effective calls handled during 1962 amounted to 6,845,706 compared with 7,034,160 during 1961. This reduction is accounted for by the disruption to the service caused by cyclone Jenny.

On December 8th, the two manual exchange at Port Louis and Rose Hill were converted to automatic working and at the same time a new trunk network linking the urban areas of the Island was brought into service.

New rural automatic exchanges were opened at L'Escalier and Plaisance Airport on 9th July and 8th December, respectively.

The Government radiotelegraph station at Vacoas maintains a 24-hour watch on the international maritime distress frequency and provides communication for shipping within a radius of 800

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miles of Mauritius. The station also provides communication with meteorological stations on the Dependencies and intercepts meteorological broadcasts from countries bordering the Indian Ocean. During 1962, the station handled 7,339 radiatelegrams compared withe 7,846 during 1961: inaddition,41,527 meteorological reports were dealt with.

On 28th February, cyclone Jenny caused considerable damage to telephone plant, particularly in the Port Louis area. Although service to the majority of subscribers had been restored by the end of March, restoration was not completed until the end of May.

Tourism

The Mauritius Government Tourist Office was set up in January, 1959, with the purpose of developing the tourist potentialities of the island and expanding the tourist industry in the interest of economic development. The Office is answerable to the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and External Communications which has specific responsibility for the development and promotion of tourism. A Tourist Advisory Board advises the Ministry on all matters connected with tourism. The members of the Board comprise representatives of air and shipping companies and of official and private organisations which can be of benefit to tourism.

In continuation of its policy to develop tourism, the Mauritius Government Tourist Office sought membership of the International Union of Official Travel Organisations—a technical and specialised body consisting of the government or official tourist organisations of 83 countries and enjoying consultative status with the United Nations. In 1960 it was accepted as full member.

In 1961, the number of visitors to Mauritius totalled 4,430; this shows an increase of 32.2 per cent over the figure for 1959, the year in which action was initiated to develop tourism. Earnings from tourism have followed an upward trend. Estimated expenditure by tourists in 1959 amounted to Rs 1.8m; this figure rose to Rs 2.2m in 1961, an increase of 22.2 per cent.

Action taken by Government has helped to improve facilities for tourists. These include the relaxation of control over the importation of Mauritius currency notes which visitors may bring in, the abolition of the written declaration of goods to the Customs by incoming passengers, and the issue of a free radio listener's licence for a period of two months to tourists arriving with a portable radio set. An amendment to the Road Traffic Legislation provides that holders of an International Driving Permit are authorised to drive hired cars without applying for a public service vehicle permit.

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One of the beaches appreciated by tourists.

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A coast-road in the South of the Island.

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The press and broadcasting service have assisted the Office in explaining its purpose and activities. In addition, news items and frequent reference to matters concerning tourism have contributed to creating an awareness of tourism as a factor in the island's economy.

There has been an appreciable development in hotel accommodation to meet the needs of visitors. Two more hotels were opened during the year and improvements have been made in existing establishments. Government assistance to hotel concerns took the form of loans, and exemption from customs duty on hotel equipment for approved establishments.

The natural attractions of the island constitute the main tourist potential of the island. For their protection and preservation, recommendations were submitted by this Office to the Ancient Monuments and National Reserves Board. A scheme for the erection of one hundred signposts was completed during the year, thereby bringing beauty spots and places of scenic interest to the notice of both visitors and residents. Valuable assistance in enhancing these natural attractions was received from the Conservator of Forests. A start was made for planting ornamental trees along roads in accordance with the list of priorities submitted by the Office.

Sub-Committees, on which the Office is represented, have been appointed by the responsible Local Authorities for planning the development of beaches. Within this context, a survey of public beaches was started. Every year during the holiday period, the Office carries out a campaign through the press, broadcasting service, primary and secondary schools, and village councils against the pollution of beaches. As part of this campaign an appeal was launched urging owners to keep their " campement " sites tidy and trim.

The International Congress of Sugar Cane Technologists, Mauritius, afforded the opportunity for improving certain areas. To this end, effective co-operation was rceived from local authorities (re-decorating public and commercial buildings, repairing access roads to the coast, etc.). Organisers of the Congress made use of the services provided by the Office. 400 advance tourist publications were sent to representatives of the countries participating in the Congress. In addition, notes on various aspects of life were compiled for issue to those involved in the organisation of this event. Owing to the reception they received, copies of the notes were subsequently prepared for distribution to visitors. Besides these activities, a course of instruction was held for hostesses.

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Local and Overseas Publicity

Publicity was obtained through the policy of assisting journalists, writers, photographers and visitors of note. In co-operation with airlines, journalists and travel agents who visited the country on the B.O.A.C. inaugural flight were given transport facilities. As occasion required, arrangements were made for them to meet personalities and to visit places of interest. As a result articles featuring the attractions of Mauritius appeared in well-known periodicals and magazines such as "Vogue", "The Tatler", "Queen", "The Sphere", in the East African "Sunday Chronicle", and in "Travel Trade Gazette" the international news-weekly of travel and tourism.

The number of inquiries dealt with by the Office rose in 1962. A hundred photos were distributed to illustrate articles and for display. The Office participated in exhibitions organised by National Tourist Offices.

The publication of two brochures "Welcome to Mauritius" and "Mauritius Tourist Map and Travel Digest" was the main feature of publicity by the Office. "Welcome to Mauritius" offers the posibility of making a quick survey of the island's tourist attractions whereas "Mauritius Tourist Map and Travel Digest" contains practical information. World wide distribution was secured for these publications through air companies, shipping firms and travel agencies. 14,050 copies of "Welcome to Mauritius" and 13,500 copies of "Mauritius Tourist Map and Travel Digest" were distributed. 10,000 copies of the pictorial map produced by the Office as distinct from the copies available for free distribution to travel agents, airlines, shipping companies and visitors were offered for sale in Mauritius.

A monthly bulletin "Coming Events" designed for the information of visitors is published by the Office. Copies are distributed locally and overseas.

Tourist Statistics

Year	*No. of Tourists*	*Estimated Expenditure* Rs
1954	1,803	1,430,000
1955	2,121	1,490,000
1956	2,079	1,050,000
1957	2,410	1,200,000
1958	2,950	1,200,000
1959	3,350	1,800,000
1960	3,390	1,700,000
1961	4,430	2,200,000

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Chapter 12: The Press and Information Services

The Press

The history of the Press in Mauritius has been traced as far back as 1773. *Le Cernéen*, one of the existing daily newspapers, has had an uninterrupted existence of more than 128 years and *Le Mauricien*, another daily, has been published regularly for the past 53 years. The languages in which the newspapers are published are French, English, Hindi, Urdu, Tamil and Chinese.

The following is a list of newspapers published in Mauritius:—

Daily

Le Cernéen
Le Mauricien
Advance
Action
Renaissance
China Times
Chinese Daily News
Central Daily News
New Chinese Commercial Paper
Chinese National Paper

Weekly

La Vie Catholique
Aryoday
J.O. et Tribune Ouvrière
L'Epée
Mauritius Times
Carrefour
Le Dimanche
Les Nouvelles
Liberté

Twice Weekly

Janata

Fortnightly

Zamana
Le Progrès Islamique
La Voix de L'Islam
The Lark
Nav Jeewan
Le Message

Monthly

Trait d'Union
The Minaret

Information Services

The functions of the Central Information Office are:—

(a) to establish and maintain relations of confidence and mutual understanding with all sections of the press;

(b) to ensure a flow of accurate information from the Government to the public;

(c) to impress upon the public the following themes:—

(i) the facts of the situation in which Mauritius finds itself (as summarised in the Report: A time for Decision) and the consequences which will flow if it is not remedied;

(ii) the strategy and plans of the Government in dealing with the situation;

(iii) the need to abolish economic waste;

(iv) the need for increased food production.

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The office which, since 19th January 1959, had been under the wing of the Chief Secretary, was included in the portfolio of the new Ministery of Information, Posts and Telegraphs and Telecommunications which was created on 1st January, 1962.

746 press notices, as compared with 583 in 1961 were paid for by this office. In addition 422 communiqués were published free of charge by the local press, as against 512 in 1961.

As a result of the reorganisation of the Press Cutting Service, 957 press cuttings were issued to the relevant ministries and departments of the island in 1962, as against 187 in the preceding year. Many of them provided the ministries and departments concerned with an opportunity of stating or re-stating Government policy or of correcting misleading conceptions on matters raised in the press concerning Government activities.

The broadcast feature entitled "Monday Night Topic" prepared in French and Hindi by the office continued to be on the air throughout the year. As in previous years, this programme provided listeners with comments on topical news most of them chosen, apart from their relevance to current themes for their social, economic and educational value.

Apart from the feature mentioned above the office provided the Mauritius Boadcasting Service daily with local news of public interest, communiqués from the various ministries and departments and, whenever any public utility campaign organized by the office warranted it, with slogans.

About 260 visits were made by Senior Officers to rural areas and a close contact continued to be maintained with the office bearers of Village Councils, Social Welfare Centres, Baitkas and Madressas. The senior officers also delivered a total of some 151 talks to Village Council, Youth Club and Social Welfare Centre audiences on the activities of Government in the different spheres of the isand's social, educational and economic life. The aims and purposes of legislation introduced by Government in the course of the year were also the subject of many discussions and talks.

The Mobile Cinema Units gave in all 828 shows during the year to an estimated audience of 579,600 i.e. an average of 700 people at every show. The Mobile Van, donated by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund, gave in addition 126 day-time and early evening shows to an average audience of 50 persons comprising members of Women Associations, Youth Clubs, Students of Private Secondary Schools and patients of Hospitals, Orphanages and Infirmaries. Besides commenting on films, the commentators, attached to these Units, addressed the audience on various aspects

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of the Government programme and on current campaigns undertaken by the office.

500 copies o the *Chronique du Lundi*, made up of selections of the Monday Night Topic prepared by the office over the latter part of the year 1959 and broadcast by the M.B.S, were published in book form and were almost ready by the end of the vear.

The office also put in hand, at the request of the Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs, the publication of a booklet entitled " A Guide to Prospective Students Overseas " prepared by the Adviser to Students' Section of the Ministry.

26 editions of the office's bilingual (English/French) bulletin were published during the year. This 12-15 page roneoed publication has a circulation of 2,300. 1,075 copies of a Hindi version of of this bulletin are also published. The office devoted two special issues of the bulletin to the Institution of the Family Allowance Scheme and the Inauguration of the First Government Housing Estate. Abundant illustrations and full dress articles made these two special issues run to some 18 pages.

The publicity campaigns undertaken during the year were:—

(i) The Anti-spitting Campaign which was taken up again by the Social Welfare Department under the aegis of the Ministry of Health and Reform Institutions. The office helped, as before, with the transmission of information and slogans to the press and to the Mauritius Broadcasting Service.

(ii) The " Produce your own Food " Campaign, initiated by Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources ever since the 1960 Cyclones, was given further impetus this year by "The Open Day" which was held at the Barkly Experimental Station from Saturday 21st to Monday 23rd July.

1,500 posters on the necessity to wash thoroughly market-sold or home-grown vegetables which are, as a rule, submitted to insecticide treatment in the field were designed, produced and printed by the office and widely distributed to Village Councils, Social Centres, Police Stations, District Courts, Markets, Restaurants and other places where people usually congregate.

In consultation and in agreement with the Press Section of the Colonial Office, the weekly summary of leading articles and other important items of news which had been despatched to the Colonial Office over the years was discontinued. But the office still continued, as in past years, to prepare for the benefit of Mauritius Students in the U.K., a monthly news bulletin, 90 copies of which are sent to the Mauritius Students' Unit in London for

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distribution. Copies of the Weekly Bulletin, besides being sent by surface mail to Commonwealth Public Relations Offices, the Colonial Office, the British High Commissioner's Office in India. are also sent by air to the Mauritius Students' Unit in London.

For the first time in its short, three-year life, the office embarked upon the production of three specific 16mm colour films.

A short topical film was shot featuring important events in 1962, such as the inception of the Family Allowance Scheme, a short staged sequence of the distribution of the allowance in presence of the Minister of Labour and Social Security, inauguration of new schools, Commonwealth Youth Sunday, etc.

A more ambitious 30-minute, 16mm colour film, the first of a series, was undertaken, containing the main aspects of development brought to fruition by Government, such as The Government Housing Scheme and the Trunk Road. All aspects of Government housing construction throughout the island and Housing Estates completed or just about to be completed, as well as a phased story showing various stages of the building of the Trunk Road, are featured in the film.

By the end of the year both films, duly edited, were on their way to London to be provided with magnetic sound strips.

A short 15-minute, 16mm colour film on " Produce your own Food " was also shot to help the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources instil more vividly into the minds of the public the need for growing and raising more consumers food at the domestic level. The film which is not yet edited, will be ready for despatch to London early next year.

Significant publicity was given to the progress in the rate of housebuilding in all parts of the island under the Government Housing Scheme. Photographs were taken of all building sites, a progress sheet was issued from time to time to Press and radio in the form of press releases and hand-outs, and also published in the Weekly Bulletin. The most significant photos were sent to the Colonial Office and to some of the London papers. The London Central Information Office illustrated magazine " Commonwealth To-Day " published one of those panoramic photographs of the Vallée des Prêtes ' La Cure ' Housing Estate, in one of its last issues of the year.

Advance publicity, in the form of progress photos with suitable captions, was also made available to the press some time before the Trunk Road was due to be inaugurated. Some 40 colour film slides of the Trunk Road were made and were shown, free of charge, by the various commercial cinema companies.

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Pictures showing the implementation of Government projects, Ministerial and other Government activities, as well as other aspects of the Mauritian national life continued to be diplsayed in front of Government House.

" Commonwealth To-Day " and other periodicals supplied to this department by the London Central Office of Information were distributed, as usual, to schools, colleges, youth clubs, village councils, Social Welfare Centres and other allied institutions. The increase in the supply of most of these publications made it possible for the office to keep step with the increasing demands of Youth Clubs and Village Organisations which are, every year, growing in number.

Twenty-one Press Conferences, as against twelve in 1961, were convened by the office to enable Ministers or distinguished visitors from abroad to meet representative journalists and to give the public, through the Press, an account of some of the most important aspects of their work or the purpose of their visit to Mauritius.

1,795 sets of photographs, half-plate and post-cards size (including " re-make ") prints, as compared with 1,415 sets for the previous year, were made by the part-time photographer of the office.

At the request of the Rector, Royal College, Curepipe, ten sets of photographs were taken of the various activities of the Royal College for despatch to the " Illustrated London News " which will devote in one of its February 1963 issues a full dress pictorial survey of the College, as a tribute to its Rector's appointment to the Headmasters' Conference.

Besides supplying the press regularly with photographs of Government activities and achievments, the office also made available to the local papers for reproduction 237 stereos, unmounted on wood, with accompanying captions, fact sheets and features sent by the London Central Office of Information, as well as 51 blocks made locally. The number sent to press during the preceding year was 131 stereos and 20 local blocks respectively.

Thirty-one 16mm documentary films were received free of charge from the London Central Office of Information, which made the total number of films available in the Film Library as at 31st December to be 352 as compared with 322 in the previous year.

The public made increasing use of the open loan scheme, operating under the bond system, during the year under review. Sixty eight subscribers, out of whom 57 are regular weekly ones,

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borrowed among themselves films making a total of 7,596 issues, as against 1,591 issues the previous year.

The office received from the Central Office of Information, London, 46 series of three 16mm, and an equal number of 35mm., British News films. These were used by the Mobile Cinema Units and the public cinema companies respectively.

The number of Vice-Presidents and Members of the Film Censorship Board was increased when the Ministry of Information, Posts and Telegraphs and Telecommunications was created in January. At the suggestion of the Minister, the panel of Film Censors, at every sitting, was increased to five instead of three members as obtained in previous years.

Eighty-nine requests for information about Mauritius, as compared with 39 last year, were received at this office. Enquiries about possibilities of settlement and touristic facilities in this country formed the bulk of these requests. A distinctive note of interest in the industries and administration of the island was also quite noticeable.

The Reference Library Stock remained almost static during the year apart from a gift of 19 new books graciously sent to the office by the Central Office of information, London. Loans from the Central Library were restricted, outside the purely reference books which do not normally leave the office, to an approved list of borrowers who were made to sign formal bonds. But quite a number of on-the-spot consultations were made, especially by students of Secondary Schools in Port Louis.

As regards the Mobile Library Service, though its bookstock is still too restricted to enable the office to meet the demands of the whole island, yet the number of service points have increased from 8 in the previous year to 25 during the year under review.

This increase of service points for which many village organisations had been clamouring for some time was made possible by a welcome addition to the bookstock of 300 books in English, French and Hindi purchased on the local market from funds deposited for this purpose by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund.

Various publishers in the United Kingdom were also requested to send along their free catalogues, booklists and specimen copies. The response was very encouraging and 800 presentation copies, ranging from junior series to travelogues, were received, which, along with the 300 volumes bought from local bookshops, brought the number of books in the Mobile Library to 1,500.

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The total number of books issued by the Mobile Library Service during the year came thus to 1,573 volumes as against 688 volumes the previous year and the total number of issues reached 7,865.

BROADCASTING

Before the Second World War broadcasting in Mauritius was run by a private commercial concern. During the war there were three stations in the Island, all partially or wholly controlled by the Government. In 1944 the Government decided to assume sole responsibility for broadcasting in the Colony and set up its own organisation, "The Mauritius Broadcasting Service", which broadcasts programmes of a non-commercial nature.

In January 1962, responsibolity for the M.B.S. was transferred from the Chief Secretary's Office to the newly created Ministry of Information Posts and Telegraphs and Telecommunications.

Since 1944 the number of radio licences has increased from 2,746 to 50,576 of which 5,943 were in respect of new radio sets licensed in 1962.

In 1961-62 the recurrent expenditure of the Mauritius Broadcasting Service amounted to Rs 479,817 as compared with a total revenue of Rs 636,475 derived from wireless licences, thus yielding a favourable balance of Rs 156,658.

In the 1960-65 Capital Expenditure Programme for the Island the Broadcasting Service was allotted Rs 1,235,000 to which the Colonial, Welfare and Development Fund will contribute Rs 876,000. At the end of June 1962, a sum of Rs 106,915.27 had been spent on this development scheme.

The two 10 kw transmitters operate on 439.2 for listeners in Mauritius and on the 31 and 61 metres bands for listeners in the dependencies. A 250w transmitter operating on 439 metres is available in emergencies.

The old Broadcasting House at Forest Side was rendered unusable by Cyclone Carol and all broadcasting activities are now concentrated at the Transmitter Station at Malherbes, Curepipe.

The Mauritius Broadcasting Service has responsibility for the maintenance of the radio services belonging to the Telecommunications, Meteorological and Harbour Departments.

The Mauritius Broadcasting Service goes on the air for an average of 72 hours a week in three daily transmissions in the

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course of which English, French and Hindustani are spoken. It also broadcasts programmes in Hindi, Urdu, Tamil, Telegu, Gujrati and Marathi and in two Chinese dialects.

Owing to lack of local professional artists, the programmes are mainly made up of recorded music and of transcription recordings from the British Broadcasting Corporation and the " Radiodiffusion-Télévision Française ". The output of live programmes has greatly increased in quality and quantity in the course of the last few years. 8 news bulletins—two in English, four in French and 2 in Hindustani—covering a total of one hour and twenty minutes are broadcast daily.

The Education Department broadcasts on week days during term time 2 programmes of 15 minutes duration each.

The Globe Reuter News Service is monitored by the Mauritius Broadcasting Service which distributes daily approximately 225 duplicated copies of world news to the local press, Government Departments, members of the Legislative Council and the Admiralty.

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Chapter 13: Local Forces

The Special (Mobile) Force

When the Mauritius Garrison was withdrawn on the 30th June, 1960, after 150 years in the Island, the Government established a Special (Mobile) Force at the former barracks at Vacoas to replace the military for purposes of internal security.

The total authorised establishment of the Force is 6 Officers and 246 other ranks. At the end of the year its actual strength was 6 Officers and 241 other ranks. The two senior officers are styled Commandant and Deputy Commandant respectively.

The Force is equipped with four 3 ton troop load carrying vehicles and eight Land Rovers.

The Special (Mobile) Force was on parade on the occasion of the opening of Legislative Council, on Her Majesty's Birthday, on Bastille Day, on Commemoration Sunday, and on the ceremony for the Installation of His Excellency the Governor.

Mauritius Naval Volunteer Force

The Mauritius Naval Volunteer Force completed its thirteenth year of service on 30th September 1962.

On 31st December 1962, the Force consisted of the Commanding Officer, two Sub-Lieutenants as Staff Instructors, three Petty Officers and seven ratings as Permanent Staff and ninety-two volunteer ratings. The number of applications for entry into the Force remains high and for the last Selection Board 186 were received. 116 of these applicants were called for interview and of this number 100 actually attended. 20 were accepted for entry on probation and 16 of this number were finally enrolled in the Force.

Volunteer ratings attend evening drills twice weekly and can attend extra voluntary sea training on MFV 189 on specified days and week ends. The attendance at both voluntary drills and extra training has continued to be most satisfactory.

In addition to voluntary drills and training, all members of the Force are required to carry out 14 days compulsory training annually. This year the training took place in October at the Cap Malheureux Youth Camp site and was attended by a record number of 3 officers, 3 petty officers and 101 ratings. During this period of annual training the members of the Force carry out the normal routine of the Ship's Company of a Naval Establishment, and volunteer ratings rceive pay and allowances according

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to their rate. Instruction in general seamanship, boat-pulling, sailing, communications, rifle shooting, physical training, etc, was given, and sea training was carried out daily in MFV 189. His Excellency the Governor paid an informal visit to the camp on 29th October.

During the year the Force provided Guards of Honour consisting of 1 Officer, 2 Petty Officers and 48 Ratings on the following occasions:—

The landing of the Commander-in-Chief, South Atlantic and South America Station, Vice-Admiral Sir Nicholas A. Copeman, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.C. on 17 March.

The arrival of His Excellency the Governor, Sir John Shaw Rennie, K.C.M.G., O.B.E., at le Réduit on 16th September.

Contingents were provided for the Queen's Birthday and Remembrance Sunday Parades.

The Comander-in-Chief, South Atlantic and South America, inspected M.N.V.F. Headquarters and M.F.V. 189 on 21st March.

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Chapter 14: General

The Mauritius Institute

The Mauritius Institute traces its origin back to the year 1880 when an Ordinance was passed " to establish and incorporate a Public Institute, to be called the Mauritius Institute, a Public Museum and a Public Library, for the purpose of promoting the general study and cultivation of the various branches and departments of Arts, Science, Literature and Philosophy, and for the instruction and recreation of the people ".

The foundation stone of the present building was laid on the 23rd November, 1880, by Sir George Bowen, then Governor. The building was completed in 1884 and in the course of the following year the Natural History Museum, known as the " Desjardins Museum ", until then housed in a wing of the Royal College in Port Louis, was transferred to the new building. The public library was opened in 1903, following the munificent bequest of the Sir Virgile Naz Library which forms the nucleus of the present collection. The Institute has expanded its activities over the years and to-day it comprises a Public Library, a Natural History Museum, an Historical Museum, and a small Art Gallery.

The Institute is managed by a Board of Directors consisting of ten members apppointed annually by the Governor and of such persons as may be recommended by any literary or scientific society associated with the Institute. The staff consists of a Director, a Librarian, a Curator, and eight other officers.

The Public Library

The Mauritius Institute Public Library was created in 1902 from a nucleus of some 9,000 volumes which had been bequeathed to the Colony by Sir Virgile Naz, K.C.M.G. (1825–1901). By subsequent purchases and gifts the stock of books now consists of 38,701 volumes. Legislation provides for the compulsory deposit, in the library of one copy of all books, pamphlets and separates, published locally and this right of legal deposit, which exists since the foundation of the library, is an implicit recognition of its status as the National Library of the island.

In addition to the Virgile Naz section which, in accordance with the will of the donor, is kept separately, the library comprises the following sections: art, science, technology, biography, fiction, etc. There is also a " Quick Reference " section consisting of encyclopaedias, dictionaries, directories. A collection of bound periodicals covering a wide range of subjects is also available. A special book-case is devoted to Oriental languages.

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Biological Research

The very interesting remnants of the indigenous land fauna and flora, together with the rich marine life of the surrounding seas present excellent opportunities for biological research. Scientific collections of all groups are made and these are studied overseas and locally by experts, the results being published in the Mauritius Institute Bulletin and in specialized publications abroad.

Art Gallery

A small art gallery is attached to the Port Louis Museum, consisting mainly of a collection of paintings presented to the Institute in 1921 by the late Mr. Edgar de Rochecouste. This collection includes a certain number of paintings of artists such as Ziem, Le Sidaner, Harpignies, and Jacques-Emile Blanche. A small section is devoted to the works of local artists.

The Historical Museum

A subsidiary museum devoted to local history has been opened in an old French house at Mahébourg recently acquired by Government. It was in this house that Monsieur de Robillard, the French Commandant of Grand Port, received the two wounded commanders of the English and French squadrons, Admirals Willoughby and Duperré, during the well-known naval battle of August, 1810. Several objects connected with this episode and recovered one hundred and twenty-four years later from the wreck of the *Magicienne*, one of the English frigates sunk in Grand Port bay during the engagement, are exhibited. These objects include a portion of the ship's hulk, several heavy guns and carronades, cannon balls, grape-shot, copper coins, pieces of sailor's uniform and various other relics.

The capture of the Island by the British at the beginning of December, 1810, is illustrated by a series of coloured prints drawn on the spot by Temple.

A section of the museum is devoted to the display of a valuable collection of maps, charts, engravings and watercolours (many in original) which serve to introduce the visitor to the various periods of the history of Mauritius from its discovery to the present time. Worthy of special mention in this section are a portulan map published at Amsterdam in 1595 (probably the most accurate map of the region available at the time of the first Dutch visit to Mauritius in 1590), an English map of Mauritius by Mount and Page published in 1745 and derived from a Dutch source, Abbé de la Caille's map (1753) which is the first accurate map of the Island,

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Bellin's map of 1768, and two maps by Lislet Geoffroy, published by the British Admiralty in 1813 and 1814. Modern maps are also shown, including the fine one-inch map by Descubes (1880) which is of great practical interest as it indicates the site of over a thousand concessions.

Among the series of lithographs and water-colours recording the life, scenery and customs of different periods, may be noted six water-colours by Kelsey (early 1840's), coloured prints by Thuillier, coloured lithographs by Bradshaw and Rider (1831–32), water-colours by Leroy (1860's), and a water-colour panoramic view of Mauritius, sketched from Port Louis harbour by Augustus Earle who was on board the *Beagle* when Charles Darwin visited Mauritius in 1836.

A few pieces of local furniture belonging to the French Governor Mahé de Labourdonnais (1699–1753) and exhibits from the East Indiaman *Kent* which was captured by Robert Surcouf, *Roi des Corsaires*, in the Bay of Bengal in October, 1800, are on view.

Relics connected with the activities of the French privateers in the Indian Ocean at the beginning of the 19th century are also displayed.

Part of a room of the Museum is devoted to the history of transport in Mauritius exemplified by two *palanquins* and a *chaise à porteurs* which were in use before the era of roads and wheeled traffic.

A small exhibit is devoted to the history of the famous " Post Office " stamp of Mauritius (1847) and is illustrated by reprints of the stamp.

Among miscellaneous items of interest may be cited: objects rescued from some memorable shipwrecks in the region, the portraits or busts of certain French and British Governors (Mahé de Labourdonnais, Charles Decaen, Robert Farquhar, Lowry Cole, John Pope Hennessy), and the Roll of Honour of the Mauritian soldiers who lost their lives in the Second World War.

During the year the Historical Museum was visited by 16,957 persons, including 9,314 schoolchildren.

Learned Societies

The following scientific and literary societies are associated with the Mauritius Institute:—

(1) *The Royal Society of Arts and Sciences of Mauritius* was founded in 1829 under the name of *Société d'Histoire Naturelle* and was honoured in 1847 by the permission of Queen Victoria to add the

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word " Royal " to its name. Its activities extend to most branches of natural history. Lectures on science and art are delivered by its members from time to time and also by visiting professors, artists and scientists. Proceedings of the Society, containing papers read before the Society, are published annually. The Society owns a library which contains many rare and valuable books and periodicals on natural history.

(2) *The Société de Technologie Agricole et Sucrière de Maurice* is a technical body founded in 1910 and devoted to the study of questions relating to agriculture and to sugar technology. The papers and proceedings of the Society are published in the bi-monthly *Revue Agricole*.

(3) *The Société des Ecrivains Mauriciens* was founded in 1938 with the object of encouraging the publication of literary works, and of establishing contacts with literary institutions overseas.

(4) *The Indian Cultural Association* was founded in 1936 with the object of promoting Indian culture in Mauritius and of fostering spiritual ties with India. It publishes a quarterly journal called " The Indian Cultural Review ".

(5) *The Société de l'Histoire de l'Ile Maurice* was founded in 1938 to foster and encourage the study of the Colony's history by the collection of documents on local history, publication of historical works, and the organisation of historical exhibitions and lectures.

One of the principal activities of the Society has been the production of the Dictionary of Mauritian Biography, twenty-five parts of which have already appeared. These contain about one thousand biographies of persons connected with Mauritius by birth or residence.

The Society awards prizes to schoolchildren to encourage the study of Mauritian history. It keeps in touch and exchanges publications with overseas institutions of like interests.

The Mauritius Archives

The Mauritius Archives Office is not only one of the oldest departments of the Colony, dating from the early years of the French settlement, but it is also one of the oldest archive centres of the Southern Hemisphere, ranking only after the Cape and Réunion repositories.

Under French rule the Office was a branch of the *Conseil Supérieur* and received special attention from the authorities. An early instance of the interest of the French Government in colonial archives is provided by the edict of 1770, which set up a central *Dépôt des Chartes des Colonies* at Versailles and enacted regula-

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tions for their better preservation. Another important measure was the establishment in Mauritius in 1808 of a *Dépôt des Cartes de la Marine* which for a long time supplied sailors and travellers in the South Indian Ocean with valuable information.

At the time of the land fighting which led to the surrender of the Island by the French, the local archives were removed from Port Louis to a safer place of custody in Plaines Wilhems and thus escaped damage. In 1815, after the final cession of Mauritius to Great Britain, they were handed over to the British authorities in an almost complete state, as comparatively few of the records were retained by the French Government.

Until 1949 the Archives were attached to the Registrar General's Department, and from January, 1950, to the Central Administration. By the Archives Ordinance (No. 71 of 1952) they were transferred to an Archives Department which is the central repository of all public archives.

The Archives Office is now divided into the following sections:

(i) the Repository, which comprises *inter alia* the records of the old French Administration (1721–1810), records of the British Administration (from 1810), notarial records, and private records;

(ii) the Library, which, besides being the official registry of all publications issued in Mauritius, contains Mauritiana printed abroad, reference books on general history, colonial history and archivology with a section devoted to collections of stamps, seals, currency notes and other materials;

(iii) the Land Registry, which comprises the records of the former Land Court, memoranda of survey deposited by sworn land surveyors, with a section containing maps, charts and plans.

The Department is also equipped with a photostat and a duostat for the photocopying of records and the supply of copies to Government departments and to the public.

The control and disposal of records is supervised by the Public Archives Records Committee. The Chief Archivist also inspects regularly archives lying in repositories other than the Archives Department.

Publications include the annual report, the quarterly *memoranda* of books and periodicals issued in Mauritius and registered in the Archives, and the publications issued by the Archives Publication Fund Committee (established in 1951).

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The bibliographical survey of Mauritiana started in 1951 was completed in February, 1955. The book, including about 1,000 pages and comprising altogether 8,865 entries, was published in 1956 under the title of Bibliography of Mauritius, 1502-1954. It was compiled with particular attention to historical development and with the main object of meeting the needs of those interested in history. To keep it up to date a bibliographical supplement including additional material recorded during each successive year from 1955 onwards, is issued as an appendix to the annual report of the Archives Department. Seven supplements have appeared.

In 1962 the Mauritius Archives Publication Fund Committee issued its sixth publication entitled: *Les constitutions de l'Ile Maurice*, edited by the Honourable D. Napal, M.A., M.L.C.

Former publications of the Committee comprise an Atlas-Souvenir to commemorate the work of Abbé de la Caille in Mauritius, a selection of documents on early American trade with Mauritius, an inventory of the records of the French East India Company's administration for 1715-1768 preserved in the Archives, a study on Mauritius and the spice trade and an account of a voyage to Mauritius and the Indian Ocean countries in 1802-05.

British Council Report

The British Council continued its normal activities during 1962; the Representative was on home leave during the period July-October.

Presure on the library became so great that it was decided to limit membership to persons over the age of 18. Over 31,000 books were lent during the year.

Two scholarships for the Study in the United Kingdom of the teaching of English as a foreign language were awarded to Mauritians. Visitorships were awarded to two Mauritian Civil servants, and one school teacher, and four members of Town Councils were awarded a six-weeks' bursary for the study of local government in the United Kingdom. A bursary was awarded to the Hon. D. Napal for the presentation of a thesis in History at London University.

The annual introductory course for students proceeding to the United Kingdom was attended by 109 Mauritians; all "sponsored" students going to Great Britain were met and provided with temporary accommodation. The journeys to the U.K. of five Commonwealth Scholars were arranged and paid for by the British Council office in Mauritius.

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As in past years, the Representative acted as Chief Examiner for the oral English test of the Cambridge School Certificate examination.

Other Professional and Cultural Associations

British Medical Association, Mauritius Branch

A branch of the British Medical Association was founded in 1939. Membership is granted to all medical practitioners who have qualified for registration in Mauritius, including those holding French qualifications. The Branch represents the majority of the doctors in the Island and close collaboration is maintained between Government and the profession. The Branch is frequently consulted by the Government.

Le Cercle Littéraire de Port Louis

The principal object of this Society is to seek to bring together all those interested in French culture and ideas. Its aims are to encourage, by means of annual competitions and public lectures, the study of the French language and literature.

Alliance Française

The Mauritius Branch of the Alliance Française was founded in 1884 with the object of encouraging the study of the French language by means of French courses in schools and annual examinations as well as meetings and conferences on French literature and art. Two prizes are awarded annually to the best candidates in French of the Royal College and the Queen Elizabeth College. The Labourdonnais College was opened in 1953 by the Alliance Française.

Mauritius Dramatic Club

The first record of an organised amateur theatrical production in Mauritius goes back as far as the 25th April, 1848, when officers of the 5th Battalion, the Northumberland Fusiliers, staged three one-act plays at the Port Louis Theatre.

A Mauritius Amateur Dramatic Club was formed in 1898 and stage productions and play readings were regularly featured until the 1914–1918 War.

The present Mauritius Dramatic Club owes its origin to a revival in theatrical activity which began in early 1920 and which ultimately led to the formation of the Club in 1932. Since then stage plays, play readings and broadcasts have been frequently presented.

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The Vacoas House of Debaters

This association, founded in 1936, takes a special interest in general educational and cultural development.

Fortnightly meetings are held for debates, play reading, unprepared stunt speeches and quiz programmes. Lectures and talks by eminent outside personalities are delivered from time to time.

Court tennis, table-tennis, chess, carrum, card games, outings, open-air campings, film-projections are some of the recreational activities.

Arrangements are periodically made for internal as well as inter-club contests in indoor games and debates.

The Hindi Pracharini Sabha

This society was established in 1935 with headquarters at Montagne Longue. Its main object is to promote and encourage the study of Hindi in Mauritius. 113 Hindi Schools are at present affiliated to it. Efforts are being made to produce a uniform curriculum in all Hindi schools, to improve the standard of teaching, and to foster the study of Hindi language and literature. Three annual examinations in Higher Hindi are conducted with the collaboration of the Hindi Sahilya Sammelan, Allahabad, India.

The Young Men's Christian Association

The Mauritius Y.M.C.A. was founded in collaboration with the London Central Y.M.C.A. and inaugurated in August, 1952. It is also a member of the World Council of Y.M.C.A.

The P.E.N. Club de l'Océan Indien

The Mauritius section of the " Federation Internationale des P.E.N. Clubs " was founded in Mauritius in 1951. It seeks to promote a spirit of understanding and friendship among the writers of all sections of the community and also among those of the neighbouring islands.

The English Association

Founded in 1946, the English Association is the outcome of a movement started by a group of English and Mauritian ladies and gentlemen with the primary object of helping Mauritian secondary school-children who were learning English to a better knowledge of the tongue and to a fuller acquaintance with English literature and culture. These school-children, usually weak in spoken English through lack of practice, were above all to be given opportunities of speaking English and of hearing it spoken by English people.

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The Association, which has a membership of about 60 and works in close co-operation with the British Council, tries to achieve its aims by engaging in as many activities as possible likely to be of assistance to students of English language and literature. Film shows, dramatic performances, and broadcasts in English are arranged for school children and essay-writing competitions are held. Above all, annual competitions in elocution, acting and choral singing are held and the prize-winners take part in a public recital. The number of schools taking part in these competitions is steadily increasing.

The Association has since its foundation been honoured with the patronage of the Governors of the Colony, its first Patron having been Sir Donald Mackenzie-Kennedy.

Centre Culturel Français

The *Centre Culturel Français* which was inaugurated in May, 1959, had, by the end of the year, enrolled some 700 members drawn up from all sections of the community.

The *Centre Culturel Français* is provided with a film unit, a goodsized library, an auditorium where records may be played at will. The Centre, situated at Curepipe, is open to the public. It is administered by two Honorary Chairmen (one of whom is the Consul for France), one President, two Vice-Presidents assisted by a Working Committee of 26 members.

The activities of the Centre Culturel Francais are many and varied. Documentary films are shown twice monthly to the public while a cine-club operates for members twice monthly. Talks are given regularly on many subjects, literary as well as scientific, by visiting lectures or by members of the Centre. Socials, seminars, debates, literary matinees and amateur film and slide projections are also held at the Centre.

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PART III

Chapter 1: Geography and Climate

POSITION

Few people living outside the Indian Ocean area would, without research, be able to place Mauritius accurately, unless perhaps they were stamp-collectors. On the map of the Indian Ocean the Island is shown by a dot somewhere near the centre. Yet it has laid claim with some degree of historical justification to the title of " The Star and Key of the Indian Ocean ". It is situated about 500 miles off the centre of the east coast of Madagascar, and is practically on the Tropic of Capricorn. By sea, it is 1,552 miles distant from Durban, 2,094 from Colombo and 3,182 from Perth. The voyage to the United Kingdom *via* the Suez Canal entails a journey of 6,942 miles, but if the alternate route *via* the Cape of Good Hope is taken the distance is 8,393 miles. Nowadays, most people travel to and from the Island by air, to Europe, India or South Africa, and journeys which used to involve weeks or months have shrunk to a matter of hours.

Physical Features

Geologically, the Indian Ocean consists of two great basins separated by a central submarine ridge running southwards from India. Mauritius is one of the few points on this ridge which appear above the surface. It is of purely volcanic origin and the Island we know today is probably only the worn down summit of an immense shield volcano which built itself up from the ocean bed in Cretaceo-Tertiary times. There were two distinct phases of volcanic activity, separated by a very long period of erosion. The older volcanic series began by the opening of a fissure in the earth's crust beneath the floor of the Indian Ocean. Eruptions slowly built up a submarine ridge of considerable height and extent. The base of the future island of Mauritius was one of the domes of this ridge. The island that appeared was perhaps, at one time, as high as the present-day Himalayas; then before the first cycle of volcanic activity ceased, a series of explosions partially destroyed what had been built up. During the very long period of quiescence which followed, the agents of erosion—wind and water, heat and cold—reduced the volcanic pile to a mere remnant. The olivine basalt blocks of the older volcanic series are hard, compact and black in colour.

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Towards the close of the Tertiary period, the second great phase of volcanic activity occurred. It was divided into two periods of eruptions, separated by a short period of erosion. The first outburst appears to have been confined to the south-west of Mauritius; the last one consisted of a succession of thin lava flows from 2″ to 20″ in thickness. These cover about 70 per cent of the present surface of the Island. Lava tunnels dating from this period are common, some of them carrying underground streams. There are also low hummocks *(tumuli)* of up to 15 feet in height, and a few depressions (e.g. at *Ile d'Ambre* and the *Puits des Hollandais)*. The rocks of the younger volcanic series are medium grey doleritic basalts.

Volcanic activity must have ceased in Mauritius more than 100,000 years ago, although the neighbouring French Island of Réunion still has an active volcano. In Mauritius a complicated series of geological submergences and emergences followed the cessation of volcanic activity. The present is a period of slow submergence. Raised reefs and beaches are found at many localities along the coast, some as much as 60 feet above sea level. The Island rests on a submarine shelf varying from ½ to 2½ miles in width, except towards the North where it covers an area of 15 by 18 miles. Outside this shelf the submarine ridge slopes rapidly down to the mean Indian Ocean depth of 2,000 fathoms.

Mauritius, which is roughly pear-shaped, is 38 miles long by 29 miles broad. From the North an extensive undulating plain rises gently towards the central plateau, where it reaches a height of about 2,200′ before dropping sharply to the southern and western coasts. There are three main groups of mountains—the Port Louis group running in a east-north-easterly direction, the Black River—Savanne group massed in a north to south direction, and the Bambous group with a east-west trend. The mountains are a striking feature of the Mauritian landscape, rising abruptly from the surrounding plain, with their lower slopes covered with dense vegetation—now being replaced by sugar cane or tea—and their upper slopes ending in precipitous rocky peaks with most distinctive outlines. They appear to be much higher than they actually are, and are particularly impressive in the early morning or towards sunset. Few visitors fail to notice the contrast between these stark, upthrusting masses, and the flat, fertile cultivated plains from which they rise.

The main watershed of the Island runs northwards across the central plateau for a distance of about 20 miles. From this ridge

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the ground slopes towards the coast, except where interrupted by the mountain ranges or by isolated peaks. The rivers consequently tend to run westward or eastward. Most of them are short and fast flowing, generally at the bottom of deep ravines and interrupted by waterfalls. Some of the larger have been harnessed for hydro-electric purposes. True crater lakes are found at Bassin Blanc and Grand Bassin, but in general water conservation is achieved by man-made reservoirs, of which there are now seven.

The Island is almost completely encircled by coral fringing reefs, within which are peaceful lagoons and a succession of lovely beaches of white, coral sand. Together with the mountains, the seashore is the glory of Mauritius and much of the social life of the Island is based upon it. Those who can afford the cost, have sea-side residences which they occupy during the winter months and at weekends for most of the other months. Public beaches give an outlet to the less favoured part of the population. As may be expected, swimming, sailing and fishing are popular pastimes in which all sections of the population indulge, no part of the Island being more than 17 miles from the coast.

Mauritius has a number of island dependencies in the Indian Ocean. These are Rodrigues (350 miles to the east), Chagos Archipelago (1,180 miles north-east in the direction of Ceylon), Agalega and Cargados Carajos (580 miles and 250 miles respectively north of Mauritius).

Rodrigues*, the principal dependency, is a mountainous island of volcanic formation encircled by a coral reef and has a total area of about 40 square miles. It measures 9½ miles in length by 4½ miles in width and its population consists mostly of fishermen and small cultivators.

Chagos* consists of five groups of coral islands, the biggest of which is Diégo Garcia. The horseshoe-shaped ribbon of land lying just above sea level surrounds a lagoon thirteen miles long and between four and five miles wide.

Agalega* consists of two small islands, separated by a narrow strip of sandbank. This dependency is the main source of copra for the edible oil industry of Mauritius.

The archipelago of Cargados Carajos*, usually referred to by the name of the principal islet, St Brandon, is a fishing station leased to a Mauritian company.

*See Maps at end of Report.

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Climate and Vegetation

Mauritius enjoys a sub-tropical maritime climate, with sufficient difference between summer and winter to avoid monotony: further variation is introduced by the wide range of rainfall and temperature resulting from the mountainous nature of the island. Humidity is rather high throughout the year and rainfall is sufficient to maintain a green cover of vegetation, except for a brief period in the driest districts. The greenness of the Island is, indeed, a striking feature of the territory giving an impression of high natural fertility. This is deceptive, as the soils are generally shallow and are poor in phosphates and exchangeable bases. The fertility of the island is in fact largely the consequence of man's intervention and skill.

The summer season runs from November to April, and the winter from June to October, though the months April—June and September—November can be looked upon as transitional periods and are usually the most pleasant in the year. Rain falls mainly in summer, but there is no well-defined dry season. At sea the annual rainfall near Mauritius is about 40 inches, but the uplift of the moisture-laden sea air, caused by the mountains, results in a rainfall varying from about 35 inches on the south-west coast to 200 inches on the central plateau. Variation from year to year is not large, but is nevertheless sufficiently great to reduce considerably the size of the sugar and other crops when the year is dry. In very wet years the rain water percolates through the soil and is carried off in the ravines without causing much damage.

Average relative humidity varies from 60 per cent in October to 68 per cent in February on the coast in the Port Louis area. Upcountry, at Curepipe, the variation is from 87 per cent in the drier months to 90 per cent average in the wetter. On high ground 100 per cent humidity is frequently experienced. Relative humidity is highest about dawn and lowest at noon, but the daily range is only about 13 per cent because of the maritime climate. For the same reason, neither the seasonal nor the diurnal range of temperature is large.

At Port Louis, the day maximum and night minimum temperatures during the hottest months average 27°C and 25°C respectively: in the winter they average 24°C and 20°C. The highest and lowest temperatures ever reached are 36°C and 12°C at Port Louis; at Curepipe, which is 1,850 feet above mean sea level they are 32°C and 7°C.

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The amount of sunshine varies considerably from day to day, as might be expected in a mountainous, sub-tropical island, but there is relatively little change with the months of the year. In the drier north-west of the Island, there is an average of 8 hours bright sunshine per day; on the high south-eastern slopes it averages 6 hours for most of the year but falls to 4¼ hours in mid-winter. The topography of Mauritius makes it an easy task to chase the sunshine.

For most of the year the Island experiences steady trade winds of moderate strength, blowing from south-east to east-south-east. In summer they may die away and be replaced for periods of a few days by calms or by a northerly wind which is humid and rather warm. Summer, too, is the cyclone season, the greatest frequency being in January and February. March cyclones are more dreaded, however, as when they occur at this time of the year they damage the maturing sugarcane crop to a greater extent.

During the past century cyclones have caused winds with gust speeds exceeding 100 miles per hour on about a dozen occasions. Winds speeds increase towards the centre of a tropical cyclone and little damage is likely to be caused if the centre passes at a distance of over 100 miles from the Island. After 15 years of freedom from cyclones, the island was hit by two major ones early in 1960 during one of which a gust of159 m.p.h. was recorded.

The 1962 sugar crop was appreciably affected by two cyclones one on the 25th December, 1961, and the second on the 28th February. A generally wet year permitted considerable recovery in sugar cane quantities except on high ground but wet conditions towards the end of the year lowered the sucrose content considerably.

Population

Mauritius has the unenviable claim to fame of being one of the most densely populated agricultural areas in the world, with a population increase of 31 per cent in the last decade and no outlets in sight for its surplus population. The effect of this population increase has been described in a recent Sessional Paper as "a situation of real gravity, which will steadily deteriorate and which can only be remedied if policies, deliberately directed to that end, are framed and enthusiastically pursued."

The problem is further complicated by the heterogeneous nature of the population, drawn from European, African and Asian sources over the last three centuries. The largest ethnic group is the Indo-Mauritian, representing two-thirds of the total population.

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and subdivided into Hindus and Muslims. The second largest group, about one-quarter of the population, comprises people of French, English and mixed descent, is Christian and mainly Roman Catholic. The last distinct group is the Sino-Mauritian, half Christian, half Buddhist. The employment pattern has tended to follow the racial, although it is being increasingly obscured by the need to find work wherever it offers. Generally speaking, however, the Hindus are agricultural, the Muslims are traders and industrial workers, the Chinese are shop-keepers, and the General Population clerical, commercial and professional urban dwellers. Population density throughout the Island exceeds 900 per square mile, but this figure does not reveal the true position which is that the population is concentrated in a number of towns and villages. The population density of the capital, Port Louis, is in excess of 43,000 per square mile, and the Plaines Wilhems townships have a density ranging from 8,000—16,000. More than half the total population is below 20 years of age—a situation of real gravity in a territory with no natural outlet for its surplus population.

Economic Conditions

To-day, sugar means more to Mauritius than wool did to England in the days of the Merchant Guilds. The sugar cane covers 90 per cent of the total area under cultivation, and the yield represents 96 per cent of all arable production. Nearly 45 per cent of the total area of the Island is cultivated, an intensity of cultivation with few parallels in the tropics. Of this area, what is not under sugar is producing tea (mainly in the up-lands), tobacco, some maize, vegetables and in the drier coastal areas, aloe fibre for the making of sacks.

Originally indigenous forests covered the greater part of the Island. From the surviving remnants it is possible to distiguish two types—the rich, evergreen forests of the uplands where the rainfall is in excess of 75″ per annum, and the dry forests in the areas of lower rainfall. In all, they amount to only a few thousand acres of the area at present forested, the majority with exotic conifers and eucalyptus. The two disastrous cyclones which struck the Island at the beginning of 1960 have played *havoc* in the forests and the exotic species, specially conifers have in many cases been reduced to a chaotic mass of broken banches and trunks. Crown forests, mainly in the uplands, cover 67,000 acres. Around the coast there are 3,500 acres of Crown Land leased for tree cultivation. River and mountain reserves in private hands slightly exceed

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15,000 acres. The forests have a dual function, as a protective cover on unproductive ground forming the catchment area of a number of rivers, and for producing most of the timber needed by the Island for construction or for use as fuel.

With such a high proportion of land under arable crops and forest cover there is little room for livestock production. Cattle number only about 40,000. Pig-keeping is limited; sheep do not do well; goats are kept mainly by the Indian population; poultry-keeping both on an industrial basis and as a background occupation is growing in popularity. But the Island as a whole has placed its reliance on the skill of the sugar industry to continue to provide it with the means of purchasing from abroad its food and clothing, manufactured goods, machinery, fertilizers and building material—in fact, practically all it needs to live.

Domestic exports usually vary between 250 and 325 million rupees a year and sugar account for about 97 per cent of this total. Tea and Molasses are the only other exports from the Colony which exceed an annual value of over one million rupees. In 1961 the imports have exceeded the exports by 25 million* rupees as compared with 147 million rupees in 1960 when exports were at a very low level as a consequence of the damages caused to sugar plantations by two violent cyclones. On the other hand the excess of exports over imports for the years 1956 to 1959 has amounted to about 129 million rupees. Almost all the sugar goes to the United Kingdom and Canada. Similarly about three quarters of the imports come from within the Commonwealth. Port Louis, the capital and the only port equipped to handle ocean-going vessels, handles the sugar exports by means of lighters carrying the bagged sugar to ships moored in the stream. Inward freight is mainly discharged into lighters also and as a new transit shed is in course of construction it is expected that the additional storage space will have a marked effect on more speedy clearance of goods.

Mauritius is completely lacking in mineral resources, has no *entrepot* trade and, apart from sugar and its by-products, has few manufacturing enterprises. It is a text-book example of a one crop economy.

Communications

This small island of 720 square miles has an excellent system of road communications, exceeding 800 miles in all, of which 62 per cent are tarred. Road traffic is extremely dense. The railway service, now reduced by closures of uneconomic lines to a total of 77¼ miles, is a Government enterprise and handles only goods traffic.

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There is only one airport in Mauritius, situated at Plaisance, in the south-east of the Island about three miles from the coast, and managed by the Civil Aviation Department of the Mauritius Government. No aircraft is based on Mauritius and no internal services exist. Regular external air services are operated (twice weekly) by AIR FRANCE *via* Nairobi, Madagascar and Réunion and (in alternate weeks) between Australia and South Africa *via* Cocos Islands and Mauritius by QANTAS EMPIRE AIRWAYS and SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS. In 1962 the British Overseas Airways Corporation started a regular weekly service between London and Mauritius *via* Rome, Khartoom and Nairobi.

Communication with the Dependencies is ensured by a passenger steamship service, with eight to ten sailings a year to Rodrigues. The minor dependencies are linked regularly by ships belonging to the commercial companies, to which the islands are leased for the production of copra, the collecting of guano or the exploitation of the off-shore fishing.

There is an efficient public telephone and telegraph system throughout the Island, which is linked with the rest of the world by Cable and Wireless Ltd., now operating radio-telephone links with many countries as well as its long-established world-wide cable service ".

Finally, reference should be made to the Government operated Mauritius Broadcasting Service, which provides medium wave transmissions for local listeners and a short-wave service for listeners overseas.

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Chapter 2: History

The Island was probably visited both by Arab sailors and by Malays during the Middle Ages, and on maps of about 1500 it is shown with an Arabic name. During the early sixteenth century Portuguese sailors visited it several times, and the first European to discover Mauritius is believed to have been Domingos Fernandez. The Island appears on many sixteenth century maps with the Portuguese name of *Cerné* or *Cirné*.

Dutch sailors first visited the Island in 1598 and renamed it Mauritius, after their ruler Prince Maurice of Nassau; later they made frequent calls on their trading expeditions to the East Indies. First-hand accounts exist of these visits, and of visits by English, French and Danish ships, which called at Mauritius for water, food and cargoes of ebony. An English trading company planned to occupy the Island but was forestalled in 1638 by a Dutch company, whose settlement lasted (with a gap from 1658 to 1664) until 1710. It was from Mauritius in 1642 that Tasman set out on his most important voyage of Australasian discovery.

The Dutch settlers never numbered much over three hundred (including children and slaves) and the most useful element was a group of twenty or thirty farmers, rearing cattle, hunting, fishing and growing food crops as well as some tobacco. But the settlement never developed enough to produce dividends and the Dutch company finally abandoned it in 1710. The most noteworthy results of this Dutch occupation were the exploitation of the Islands's great ebony forests and the extinction of the Dodo, a bird peculiar to Mauritius, often mentioned by early seventeenth-century travellers. The Dutch are also to be remembered for the introduction of sugarcane, cotton, domestic animals and deer. Before the Dutch occupation the Island was uninhabited. The slaves introduced into Mauritius by the Dutch were brought from Madagascar.

The French in 1715 claimed the Island and called it *Ile de France,* but do not seem to have settled any of their surplus Bourbon colonists there until 1722. In the interval, European pirates from Madagascar and ships of the British Navy, searching for the pirates, were almost the only visitors.

From 1722 till about 1767 Mauritius was governed by the French East India Company. From 1767 to 1810 it was in charge of officials appointed by the French Government, apart from a brief period of independence under the Colonial Assembly during the

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French Revolution. In 1735 the population had grown to almost one thousand, including two hundred Europeans, and from the time of the governorship of Mahé de Labourdonnais onwards increased rapidly, reaching nearly twenty thousand in 1767 (fifteen thousand of them slaves). Labourdonnais did more than any other Governor to change what was a petty outpost into a strong, prosperous and well populated colony. Much of the land was divided into concessions of approximately a quarter-mile by a mile, and most of these were farmed. Coffee, manioc, maize, vegetables, fruit, indigo, cloves and sugar, were among the crops grown. There was some rearing of poultry, goats and cattle.

Towards the end of the Company's rule Port Louis, the capital, was a lair of speculators and adventurers desirous of returning to Europe as soon as they had made their fortunes. During the wars of the eighteenth century (Austrian Succession War, Seven Years War, and War of American Independence), the Island became a naval depot, supplying French fleets fighting the British in the Indian Ocean, and was the pivot of French schemes to drive the British out of their Indian trading settlements. It was also a port of call for several expeditions, notably that of Bougainville, and was described by many French travellers, of whom the best known is Bernardin de Saint Pierre, author of *Paul et Virginie*.

From 1767, under royal government, the population continued to increase, reaching thirty thousand in 1777, forty thousand in 1787, and nearly sixty thousand in 1797, including fifty thousand slaves from Madagascar and Africa. During the French Revolution the inhabitants of Mauritius set up a government virtually independent of France, because the property owners were resolved to defend their interests against the *Jacobins* and *sans culottes* and to resist the attempt made by the French revolutionary government to release the slaves. The Colonial Assembly organised successful and damaging raids on English commerce whenever England and France were at war. The raids continued while Decaen, one of Napoleon's generals, was Governor until in 1810 a strong British expedition, long planned and more than once postponed, was sent to capture the Island. A preliminary attack was foiled at Grand Port in August, 1810, but the main attack, launched in December of the same year with larger forces, was successful. Bourbon and Rodrigues were also occupied by the British in 1810, but by the Treaty of Paris in 1814 Bourbon was given back to France. Mauritius and its dependencies, including Rodrigues and the Seychelles, were then ceded definitely to Great Britain.

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Many English officials were brought in, together with a large garrison of several regiments. By 1870 the garrison had been gradually reduced to half a battalion, which was still further reduced after 1914. Few English merchants and private persons have settled in Mauritius, whose European population has remained mainly French in language and sentiment although loyal to the British Crown. After 1825 the Island flourished, especially by the export of sugar to England, the crop increasing from 14,000 tons to 34,000 tons in the decade 1823–33. During these early years the English Government's policy of suppression of the slave trade and the consequent plans to free the slaves were opposed until a sum of two million pounds sterling had been paid to the slave owners as compensation for the loss of their slaves. To replace the freed slaves labourers were brought from India to work in the fields. The population, which in 1833 had reached a hundred thousand (three-quarters of them slaves), had by 1861 risen to three hundred thousand, nearly two hundred thousand of them being immigrants from India, most of whom remained to settle in Mauritius.

With the aid of immigrant labour, imported fertilizers, improved methods of agriculture and richer cane varieties, the sugar crop rose to 70,000 tons in 1853, 150,000 tons by 1900, and in 1959 reached the record figure of 580,372 tons. In the interest of the sugar industry, forests were cut down, labourers brought in, reservoir and irrigation schemes carried out, new government departments set up and technicians trained. As Joseph Conrad wrote: " First rate sugarcane is grown there. All the population lives for it and by it. Sugar is their daily bread ".

Other industries were sporadically encouraged and usually neglected. After the slaves had been freed, much less food was grown locally and more was imported, especially rice from India. This became the staple food of the population and remained so, except in the 1939–45 war when rice supplies from Burma and India were cut off and imported flour and local crops had to be used as substitutes. When boom prices were being paid for sugar after the 1914–18 war, various minor industries including tea, brick and tile manufacture, tobacco, aloe fibre bags and a government dairy were developed.

One side of Mauritian history is concerned with cyclones, epidemics and crop pests, which from time to time have upset the economy of the island. In the eighteen-fifties there were epidemics of cholera and in the eighteen-sixties five years of epidemic malaria which caused in 1867 the death of 20,000 people in Port Louis alone

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and the mass migration of thousands of persons, including almost all the well-to-do, from Port Louis and the coastal districts to the higher, healthier parts of Plaines Wilhems. Curepipe, a scattered village in 1865, was by 1895 large enough to have a town board, nominated annually by the Governor, and by 1959 was a town of 27,900 people. The district of Plaines Wilhems, which in 1851 had 14,000 inhabitants, grew to 75,000 in 1921 and 194,800 in 1961. The cyclone of 1892, in which 1,200 persons were killed; the epidemic of sura in 1902, which killed off all the draught oxen and caused sugar estates hurriedly to import light railways; bubonic plague in 1899; the *Phytalus Smithi* beetle, which in 1911 was found to be attacking the sugarcane; the 1919 epidemic of influenza; the spread of malaria during the nineteen-thirties into the hills and higher districts; three cyclones and a serious outbreak of polio-myelitis in 1945 and finally two severe cyclones in 1960 are some of the greater misfortunes woven into the pattern of the Island's history.

When sugar prices were high and the Island was prosperous, living conditions were improved in various ways. The sanitation of Port Louis was improved in the eighteen-nineties after long discussion. Sir Ronald Ross's visit in 1908 led to useful anti-malarial work during the next twenty years. Reservoirs at Mare-aux-Vacoas (1893–95), La Ferme (1918), La Nicolière (1924) and Piton du Milieu (1956) brought irrigation and domestic water in private houses and to sugar estates in several districts. Child welfare and similar activities developed in the war years. After expert inquiries in 1921 the water supply of Port Louis was greatly improved and the port itself was modernised. Under the stimulus of the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts more money was spent on education after the War. Before 1937 government revenue had come mainly from taxes on goods entering or leaving the Island as well as on various local products. A graduated poll tax on incomes was introduced and within ten years had almost doubled government revenue. The poll tax was replaced by an income tax as from the 1st July, 1951. The revenue from this source rose from Rs 17,322,000 in the financial year 1950–51 to Rs 41,371,113 in the financial year 1960–61.

At times when sugar prices were low or climatic difficulties discouraging, the Island had to raise loans or obtain grants from London. This happened in 1892, in 1908 when a Royal Commission of Inquiry under Sir Frank Swettenham was sent out from England, in 1930 when government expenditure on public works and on

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salaries was cut, in 1945 and 1960 as the consequence of the disastrous cyclones of these years.

The main political events of the period 1850–1900 were the establishment of the Municipality of Port Louis in 1850, the Royal Commission of Enquiry on Indian Immigration in 1872, and the creation in 1886 of a Council of Government including elected members.

The early years of the present century were a period of slow recovery after the epidemics, cyclones and other calamities. The years that immediately followed the 1914-18 war were years of unprecedented prosperity, owing to a boom in sugar prices, but this prosperity did not last long. During the second World War, Mauritius assumed considerable strategic importance through the closing of the Suez Canal and the threat to India by the Japanese after their conquest of most of the European settlements in the Far East. The population at large played a valuable part in the organisation of local, military, and passive defence and a large number of the Colony's youth volunteered to serve overseas.

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Chapter 3: Administration

Central Government

The Government of Mauritius is vested in a Governor with an Executive Council and a Legislative Council.

A Council of Government was first established in 1825. It consisted of the Governor and four officials. In the following year the Constitution was amended and a Council which included unofficial members was introduced. This Constitution provided for a Council of Government composed of certain officers of the Crown and an equal number of other persons, to be taken from the chief landowners and principal merchants of the Colony; seven officials and seven non-officials were accordingly appointed.

The Constitution was again amended in October, 1885. The Council of Government under the revised Constitution was composed of the Governor, eight *ex officio* members, nine members nominated by the Governor, and ten elected members; of the latter, two represented the town of Port Louis, the capital of the Island, and the remaining eight represented the rural districts. At least one-third of the nominated members were to be persons not holding any public office.

The Constitution was further amended in July, 1933, by fixing at two-thirds the proportion of the nominated members of the Council who were to be non-officials and, although no provision to that effect was made in the Letters Patent, the nominated non-official members were allowed a free vote on all occasions. The constitution of the Executive Council, which had hitherto been composed of the Governor and four *ex officio* members, was amended at the same time, and the practice of appointing non-official members to the Council, which had prevailed before the Royal Commission of 1909 reported, was revived.

The normal life of a Council is five years, but the last one to sit under the 1933 Constitution lasted from 1936 to 1948. This long extension was due first of all to the war and subsequently to the delay in arriving at a final decision on the new and more liberal Constitution. The protracted labours of the Consultative Committee on the revision of the constitution had ended in a virtual stalemate. In 1947 the then Governor, Sir Donald Mackenzie-Kennedy, broke this stalemate by submitting to the Secretary of State revised proposals based on his belief that the bulk of the population was not ready for fully democratic institutions. To guard against possible abuse certain safeguards were suggested, but within these limitations

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the widest possible measure of enfranchisement, on the basis of a "simple literacy" requirement, was recommended by the Governor, whose recommendations were accepted and embodied in the Letters Patent, Royal Instructions and Order in Council dated the 9th December, 1947. A general election was held in August, 1948, and the new Council met on the first day of September.

Constituencies were regrouped under the Order in Council of December, 1947. Plaines Wilhems and Black River were joined together to form one constituency returning six members. The constituencies of Pamplemousses/Rivière du Rempart, Moka/Flacq and Grand Port/Savanne each returned three members, and the constituency of Port Louis had four members.

Under the 1933 Constitution the number of registered electors was never greater than 12,000 (the figure of December, 1947, was 11,799). The number of registered electors under the 1947 Constitution was six times greater—71,723 having qualified to vote in the 1948 general election—and by the end of 1957 had risen to 91,010.

In 1958, by virtue of the Mauritius (Electoral Provisions) Order in Council, 1958, the 40 constituencies recommended in the report of the Mauritius Electoral Boundary Commission were demarcated and proclaimed, the registration of electors for the Legislative Council was undertaken for the first time on the basis of universal adult suffrage and the number of registered electors rose to 208,684.

On the 31st December, 1958, the Second Legislative Council was dissolved and the Mauritius (Constitution) Order in Council, 1958, was brought into operation with the exception of Part II thereof, relating to the Executive Council. The way was thus clear for a general election for the Legislative Council on the basis provided in the constitutional Order in Council to take place early in 1959.

The Legislative Council was composed in 1960 of the Speaker, three *ex officio*, 40 elected and 12 nominated non-official members. The Governor formerly presided but since January, 1957, the Council has had a Speaker appointed by the Governor, in accordance with the Mauritius (Legislative Council) (Amendment) Order in Council, 1956, and the Mauritius (Constitution) Orders in Council, 1958 and 1959. A Deputy Speaker is elected by the Council from amongst those members who are not Ministers.

The Mauritius (Constitution) Order in Council 1961, which resulted from constitutional discussions held in London, provided

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for the appointment of a Chief Minister and the creation of an additional Minister of Information, Posts and Telegraphs and Telecommunications.

In debates in the Legislative Council members may speak either in English or in French.

The Executive Council consists of three officials (the Chief Secretary, the Attorney-General and the Financial Secretary), and ten members appointed by the Governor from amongst elected or nominated members of the Legislative Council in accordance with the Mauritius (Constitution) Order in Council, 1958–61. The *ex-officio* and appointed members are styled Ministers. Each Minister is responsible for the administration of specified departments or subjects and is bound by the rules of collective responsibility. Besides the official members, ten Ministers hold portfolios as Minister of Finance, Minister of Health and Reform Institutions, Minister of Labour and Social Security, Minister of Education and Cultural Affairs, Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Minister of Local Govenment and Co-operative Development, Minister of Housing, Lands and Town and Country Planning, Minister of Industry, Commerce and External Communications, Minister of Works and Internal Communications, and the Minister of Information, Posts and Telegraphs, and Telecommunications.

The Minister of Finance assumed the duties of Chief Minister and is now Chief Minister and Minister of Finance. The Executive Council, which was formerly a purely advisory body, now has full executive responsibility and is the principal instrument of policy. The Governor is obliged to consult with Executive Council in the formulation of policy and in the exercise of all powers conferred upon him by the Mauritius Letters Patent, other than those which he is empowered to exercise in his discretion, and to act in accordance with the advice of the Executive Council.

The names of members of the Executive and Legislative Councils are given in Appendices II and III to this Report.

The head of the Civil Service is the Chief Secretary. He is the Governor's principal official adviser on administrative and political matters. The Financial Secretary is the chief financial and economic adviser of the Minister of Finance.

The Public Service Commission Ordinance was passed in 1958 (No. 23 of that year) providing for the constitution of a Public Service Commission with a membership of not more than four members including the Chairman. The Ordinance was brought into force with effect from the 11th May, 1955, by Proclamation.

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Subsequently the Ordinance was amended by the Public Service (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 23 of 1959) increasing the number of members to five. By virtue of section 52 of the Mauritius (Constitution) Order in Council, 1958, as amended by section 2 of the Mauritius (Constitution) (Amendment) Order in Council, 1959, the Commission is part of the constitution of Mauritius. The Commission's function is to advise the Governor on appointments, promotions, disciplinary action and other matters which are referred to it in accordance with the provisions of the Ordinance. During 1962 the Commission considered 2,144 applications in connexion with first appointments to 481 posts, as well as the claims of 337 candidates for promotions: this involved a total of 933 interviews. The Commission also advised on 22 disciplinary cases and considered 96 matters concerning the grant of study leave or scholarships.

The Police Service Commission consists of a Chairman and four other members in accordance with section 3 of the Mauritius (Constitution) (Amendment) Order in Council, 1959, under which it was constituted on 28th July, 1959: the Chairman of the Public Service Commission serves as Chairman.

The function of the Commission is to advise the Governor on any question relating to the appointment, promotion, dismissal or disciplinary control of members of the police force, and on any matters affecting the police force which may be referred to it.

Local Government

Urban

The Municipality of Port Louis was first established in 1850. The membership of the Municipal Council, which is wholly elected, was increased from 12 to 16 by the Municipality (Amendment) Ordinance, 1950 (No. 35 of that year).

In Plaines Wilhems the Town Councils (Constitution) Ordinance (No. 38 of 1950) provided for Town Councils to replace the former Boards of Commissioners for Curepipe, Beau Bassin-Rose Hill, and Quatre Bornes. The majority of the members are elected but each Council has a proportion of members nominated by the Governor: Curepipe and Beau Bassin-Rose Hill each have twelve elected and four nominated members, while Quatre Bornes has ten elected and three nominated members.

The franchise was formerly based on residence, plus a simple literacy test, occupation of business premises in the electoral area, or the payment of rates or taxes. During 1959, however, the decision was taken to hold the Municipal and Town Council

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elections on the basis of universal adult suffrage and certain taxpayers' qualifications.

The number of registered electors for the Municipal and Town Councils at the end of 1962 was as follows:—

Council	*Registered electors*
Port Louis	... 26,598
Curepipe	... 11,383
Beau Bassin/Rose Hill	... 11,220
Quatre Bornes ...	... 8,079

By virtue of the Local Government Elections Ordinance (No. 1 of 1956) responsibility for the registration of electors and for the conduct of elections in the electoral areas of the Municipality and the three Town Councils was placed on an Electoral Commissioner appointed by the Governor. In 1956 electors were registered and the general elections for the Municipal and Town Councils were conducted in accordance with the provisions of that Ordinance for the first time. This Ordinance, however, was repealed by the Representation of the People Ordinance (No.14 of 1958) which provides for the registration of electors and the conduct of elections for both the Legislative Council and the Municipal and Town Councils. Responsibility for the registration of electors and the conduct of elections continues to be vested in the Electoral Commissioner.

In July 1962, the Local Government Ordinance, primarily designed to substitute one comprehensive ordinance for the numerous existing ordinances applying to Local Government Bodies, came into force. The pattern of the ordinance follows the legislation in force in England and Wales, modified or adapted where considered appropriate to meet local circumstances.

So far as urban authorities are concerned, the main provisions embodied in the Local Government Ordinance, 1962, may be summarised as follows:

(a) More comprehensive provisions for the appointment, discipline, accountability and protection of officers;

(b) more comprehensive provisions for the creation of new areas;

(c) additional powers in respect of the acquisition and disposal of land, taxation and borrowing;

(d) a new rating system, with the appointment of a Valuation Officer and the establishment of a Valuation Tribunal;

(e) more adequate and suitable provision in respect of expenditure control, maintenance and audit of accounts.

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Rural

The main developments in rural local government since the end of the last war may be outlined as follows:

(a) Appointment of Civil Commissioners—A fresh start in local government was made in October, 1946, when a Civil Commissioner was appointed to take charge of the southern districts of Grand Port and Savanne. Three other Civil Commissioners were subsequently appointed: one for the North (Pamplemousses and Rivière du Rempart) in 1947, one for Moka-Flacq in 1948, and one for Plaines Wilhems-Black River in 1955.

(b) Establishment of Village Councils.—Village councils were first constituted in 1947. A few councils developed very rapidly indeed, and with funds provided by the central government undertook road repairs, the construction of bridges, markets, public latrines, improvements to water supplies, etc.

(c) Village Councils and District Councils Ordinances, 1951.—The Village Councils and District Councils Ordinances, 1951, constituted the first step towards decentralisation of administration. Regular elections and powers to revise taxes, own property, and make bye-laws greatly enhanced the status of the village councils.

At the end of 1952 district councils were set up in each of three Civil Commissioners' districts, and in the fourth (Plaines Wilhems-Black River) in 1958.

(d) Sessional Paper No. 2 of 1956.—In 1955, the problems of rural administration, its relations with the central government, the position of the Civil Commissioners and the future of district councils as they advanced beyond the preliminary stage of their development, were reviewed by Government. In November, 1956, Sessional Paper No. 2 of 1956 on the development of rural local government in Mauritius was debated by Legislative Council and was accepted as providing a sound basis for such development. The paper reviewed the position of village and district councils in rural local government, and suggested the general line on which the responsibilities and exercise of active citizenship in rural areas could best be developed.

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In brief, the recommendations made in this paper were as follows:—

(i) District and village councils should cease to be agencies for the distribution of funds derived from the central government and should raise their own funds;

(ii) district and village councils should have appropriate trained staff;

(iii) the direct participation of Civil Commissioners in the work of district councils as members of those councils should cease while their essential functions as guides and advisers of the district councils, particularly in financial matters, should remain unchanged;

(iv) representatives of Government departments should similarly cease to be members of district councils by nomination;

(v) the nomination to district councils of members of the Legislature, estate managers, and presidents of Co-operative Socities should also be reviewed in the light of the principles outlined in the Sessional Paper.

(e) Local Government Ordinance, 1962.—The recommendations of Sesional Paper No. 2 of 1956, referred to above, were largely embodied in the Local Government Ordinance, 1962. This substituted one comprehensive ordinance, applicable to all local government bodies, for a number of ordinances which were out-of-date, and had been extensively amended.

At the end of 1962 there were 30 village councils in the North, 29 in the South, 32 in Moka-Flacq and 23 in Plaines Wilhems—Black River. Village Council elections were held in September 1962. Village councils consist of not less than 7 and not more than 12 members including 3 appointed by the Governor. District councils consist of 10 chairmen of village councils and 5 persons appointed by the Governor. Employees of Government or of local authorities are no longer entitled to sit on village or district councils. The direct participation of Civil Commissioners in the work of district councils has ceased, but they retain certain statutory responsibilities, and continue to act as guides and advisers to the councils.

Local Government forms part of the port-folio of the Minister of Local Government and Co-operative Development.

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Chapter 4: Weights and Measures

The metric system is in general use in the Colony, certain French measures are still used in connection with measurements of land, the more common being:

1 French foot	=	1·06 English feet
1 Arpent	=	40,000 French square feet or 1·04 acres
1 Toise	=	6 French feet or 2 yards 4 inches

The following measures of capacity are also in use:

1 Bouteille	=	800 c.c. (liquid)
1 Chopine	=	half-bouteille
1 Corde	=	80 French cubic feet or 96·82 English cubic feet (used only to measure firewood).

A measure of length commonly used in the field is the *Gaulette* which is equivalent to 10 French feet. The term *livre* is used currently to mean half a kilogram.

The Weights and Measures Control Section of the Police Force is responsible for examining and stamping weights, scales, weighing machines, measures of length and measures of capacity. This section also deals with all inaccurate weights and measures seized by the Police, and issues the necessary certificates for production in Court. The control of weighbridges on sugar estates is the responsibility of the Central Board constituted under the Sale of Canes (Control) Ordinance.

The amount of duty collected on weights and measures in 1962 was Rs 6,180.74 compared with Rs 7,213.99 in 1961.

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Chapter 5: Reading List

A list of publications of general interest relating to Mauritius is given in Appendix IV.

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APPENDIX I

Capital Expenditure Programme 1960—1965

Allocations made in Sessional Paper No. 2 of 1961, as subsequently amended, and Actual Expenditure to 30th June, 1962

Allocation	*Total 1960–65*	*Actual Expenditure to 30.6.62*
	Rs	Rs
CENTRAL AND DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIONS		
Central Administration	2,115,700	919,151
District Administrations	33,530	32,683
Police	3,064,600	1,590,730
Fire Services	382,000	92,439
Broadcasting	1,235,000	106,918
Training Scheme	650,000	27,697
Printing	250,000	—
Special Mobile Force	203,000	133,202
Electoral Commission	121,470	121,470
TOTAL	8,055,300	3,024,290
TREASURY, CUSTOMS AND EXCISE MISCELLANEOUS LOANS AND SUBVENTIONS		
Treasury	106,000	103,345
Customs and Excise	150,000	—
Miscellaneous Loans and Subventions	75,000	27,000
Mauritius Agricultural Bank	44,500,000	3,568,334
TOTAL	44,831,000	3,698,679
AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES		
Agriculture	18,183,000	4,969,004
Forests	346,000	68,520
TOTAL	18,529,000	5,037,524
EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS		
Primary Education	9,265,000	1,451,217
Secondary Education	5,875,000	1,231,169
Archives	17,000	16,488
TOTAL	15,157,000	2,698,874

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APPENDIX I—*continued*

Allocation	*Total 1960–65*	*Actual Expenditure to 30.6.62*
	Rs	Rs
HEALTH AND REFORM INSTITUTIONS		
Health	7,351,000	901,298
Prisons	470,000	221,164
Social Welfare	138,000	125,882
TOTAL	7,959,000	1,248,344
LABOUR AND SOCIAL SECURITY		
Public Assistance	300,000	44,405
WORKS AND INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS		
New storage and Irrigation Works	10,007,000	3,132,915
Domestic Water Supplies	7,988,000	1,545,340
Sewerage	21,318,000	8,242,278
Public Works	2,260,000	1,202,931
Roads	28,563,000	12,719,497
Posts and Telegraphs	250,000	46,813
Road Traffic Licensing Authority	400,000	111,721
TOTAL	70,786,000	27,001,495
INDUSTRY, COMMERCE AND EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS		
Secondary Industries	50,000	1,500
Electricity	47,520,000	12,268,198
Harbour and Quays	13,125,000	6,871,549
Telecommunications	9,195,000	5,741,356
Meteorology	250,000	53,163
Civil Aviation	7,443,000	4,338,468
Tourism	2,045,700	1,386,319
TOTAL	79,628,700	30,660,553
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT		
Local Government...	6,250,000	2,856,430
Co-operative Societies	400,000	60,480
TOTAL	6,650,000	2,916,910
HOUSING, LANDS AND TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING		
Housing	78,010,000	11,980,000
Cadastral Survey	25,000	19,747
TOTAL	78,035,000	11,999,747
Cyclone Emergency Expenditure	11,929,000	9,451,263
GRAND TOTAL	341,860,000	97,782,084

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APPENDIX II

(Part III—Chapter 3: Administration)

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IN 1962

President

His Excellency SIR COLVILLE MONTGOMERY DEVERELL, K.C.M.G., C.V.O., O.B.E., until 9th July

T. D. VICKERS, ESQ., C.M.G., from 10th July and until 16th September

His Excellency SIR JOHN SHAW RENNIE, K.C.M.G., O.B.E., from 17th September

Ex Officio Members

The Chief Secretary

T. D. VICKERS, ESQ., C.M.G., until 9th July and from 17th September

F. L. SIMPSON, ESQ., (Acting) from 10th July and until 17th September

The Attorney General

M. LAVOIPIERRE, ESQ., Q.C., until 30th April and from 17th October

M. LATOUR-ADRIEN, ESQ., (Acting) from 1st May and until 16th October

The Financial Secretary

A. F. BATES, ESQ., C.M.G. until 21st April and from 28th May until 16th July; then from 1st November

J. D. GREIG, ESQ. (Acting) from 21st April until 28th May; then from 16th July to 1st November

Appointed by the Governor

Dr. the Honourable S. RAMGOOLAM, Chief Minister and Minister of Finance

The Honourable A. BEEJADHUR, Minister of Education and Cultural Affairs.

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APPENDIX II—*continued*

The Honourable S. BOOLELL, Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The Honourable J. G. FORÇET, Minister of Health and Reform Institutions.

The Honourable F. LAVENTURE, Minister of Local Government and Co-operative Development.

The Honourable A. R. MOHAMED, Minister of Housing, Lands and Town and Country Planning.

The Honourable A. L. NAIRAC, C.B.E., Q.C., Minister of Industry, Commerce and External Communications (until 15th October)

The Honourable V. RINGADOO, Minister of Labour and Social Security.

The Honourable H. E. WALTER, Minister of Works and Internal Communications.

The Honourable A. H. M. OSMAN, Minister of Information, Posts and Telegraphs, and Telecommunications

The Honourable J. M. PATURAU, D.F.C., Minister of Industry, Commerce and External Communications (from 15th October)

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APPENDIX III

(Part III—Chapter 3: Administration)

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN 1962

Speaker

The Honourable H. R. VAGHJEE

Deputy Speaker

The Honourable C. C. DAVID, Nominated Member

Ex Officio Members

The Chief Secretary

T. D. VICKERS, ESQ., C.M.G., until 8th July and from 17th September

F. L. SIMPSON, ESQ., (Acting) from 9th July to 16th September

The Attorney General

M. LAVOIPIERRE, ESQ., Q.C., until 1st May and from 17th October

M. LATOUR-ADRIEN, ESQ., (Acting) from 2nd May to 16th October

The Financial Secretary

A. F. BATES, ESQ., C.M.G., until 20th April; then from 28th May to 15th July and from 5th November.

J. D. GREIG, ESQ., (Acting) from 21st April to 27th May and from 16th July to 4th November.

Elected Members

The Honourable R. BALGOBIN, Member for Grand River South East

The Honourable D. BASANT RAI, Member for Vieux Grand Port

The Honourable A. BEEJADHUR, Member for Rivière du Rempart

Dr. the Honourable R. BHAGEERUTTY, Member for La Caverne

The Honourable S. BISSOONDOYAL, Member for Rose Belle

The Honourable S. BOOLELL, Member for Montagne Blanche

The Honourable J. E. CHANGKYE, Member for Port Louis South

The Honourable P. DABEE, Member for Savanne

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APPENDIX III—*continued*

The Honourable A. DAHAL, Member for Rivière des Anguilles
The Honourable J. S. E. DAVID, Member for Midlands
The Honourable J. R. DELAÎTRE, Member for Quatre Bornes
Dr. the Honourable W. R. DUPRÉ, Member for Port Louis West
The Honourable C. G. DUVAL, Member for Curepipe
The Honourable M. FOOGOOA, Member for Montagne Longue
The Honourable J. G. FORGET, Member for Belle Rose
The Honourable G. GANGARAM, Member for Black River
The Honourable V. GOVINDEN, M.B.E., Member for Souillac
The Honourable S. INDUR, Member for Stanley
The Honourable A. H. G. M. ISSAC, Member for Port Louis Central
The Honourable K. JAGATSINGH, Member for Petite Rivière
The Honourable R. JAYPAL, Member for Grand' Baie
The Honourable R. JOMADAR, Member for Flacq
The Honourable J. M. J. L. M. J. KŒNIG, Member for Beau Bassin
The Honourable G. KOORARAM, Member for Floréal
The Honourable L. O. LACAZE, Member for Port Louis North
The Honourable A. R. MOHAMED, Member for Port Louis East
The Honourable A. MOIGNAC, Member for Grand River North West
The Honourable D. NAPAL, Member for Pamplemousses
The Honourable A. H. M. OSMAN, Member for Phœnix
Dr. the Honourable S. RAMGOOLAM, Member for Triolet
The Honourable S. Y. R. RAMJAN, Member for Port Louis Maritime
The Honourable B. RAMLALLAH, Member for Poudre d'Or
The Honourable H. RAMNARAIN, Member for Piton
The Honourable M. J. J. R. REY, Member for Moka
The Honourable V. RINGADOO, Member for Quartier Militaire
The Honourable J. N. ROY, Member for Plaine Magnien
The Honourable R. SEWGOBIND, Member for Vacoas
Dr. the Honourable L. TEELOCK, Member for Bon Accueil
The Honourable H. E. WALTER, Member for Mahébourg
The Honourable J. H. YTHIER, Member for Rose Hill

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Nominated Members

The Honourable J. E. M. L. AH-CHUEN

Dr. the Honourable L. R. CHAPERON

The Honourable C. C. DAVID

The Honourable L. R. DEVIENNE

The Honourable F. LAVENTURE

The Honourable M. A. D. R. MAIGROT, O.B.E. (died on 24th April)

The Honourable J. G. MARIE

The Honourable A. L. NAIRAC, C.B.E., Q.C.

The Honourable I. PERROO

The Honourable J. M. PATURAU, D.F.C.. as from 8th June, 62

The Honourable P. G. R. RAULT

The Honourable M. R. G. ROCHECOUSTE

The Honourable I. G. G. SMITH, O.B.E., as from 27.2.62

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APPENDIX IV

(Part III—Chapter 5: Reading list)

Leading Books on Mauritius

GENERAL

GENERALIA

UNIENVILLE, Marie Claude Antoine Marrier, *baron* d': Statistique de l'île Maurice et ses dépendances, suivie d'une notice historique sur cette colonie et d'un Essai sur l'île de Madagascar. Paris G. Barba, 1838. 3v.

A second edition was published in Port Louis, Typ. The Merchants and Planters Gazette, 1885–86, 3 vols, with phot. portr.

MAURITIUS. *Central Statistical Office*. Year Book of statistics. v. 1 (1946)—v. 14 (1959).

MACMILLAN, Allister, *ed*: Mauritius Illustrated. Historical and descriptive, commercial and industrial facts, figures, and resources. London, W. H. and L. Collingridge, 1914. 456, with numerous illus. and maps.

PRIDHAM, Charles. An historical, political and statistical account of Mauritius and its dependencies. London, T. and W. Boone, 1849. xiii, 410p.

WALTER, A. Chronological table of events in Mauritius, 1507–1916. Appendix to the Mauritius Almanac, (1917). Mauritius, The Mauritius Stationery and Printing Cy. Ltd., 1917. 57p.

Fairly complete for the period of British occupation.

CHAROUX, Clément. Guide illustré de l'île Maurice. Port Louis. General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1936. 64, (32), IIp., illus.

TOUSSAINT, Auguste. Port Louis, deux siècles d'histoire, (1735–1935). Avec une Préface de Pierre Crépin, Docteur-ès-Lettres, Lauréat de l'Académie Française. Port Louis, La Typographie Moderne, 1936. (IX), 516p., with 50 plates and 9 maps.

Published on the occasion of the celebration of the bi-centenary of the foundation of Port Louis under the patronage of the Bi-centenary Committee, the Historical Records Committee and the Royal Society of Arts and Sciences of Mauritius. A very full account of the development of Port Louis.

BARNWELL, P. J. *and* TOUSSAINT, A. A short history of Mauritius. London, Longmans, Green & Co., 1949. 268p., illus.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

SORNAY, Pierre de. Isle de France—Ile Maurice. Port Louis, The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1950. XIV, 550, XXVIIp., illus.

TOUSSAINT, Auguste: Select bibliography of Mauritius. Port Louis, The Standard Printing and Stationery Establishment, 1951. 56p.

TOUSSAINT, A., *and* ADOLPHE, H. Bibliography of Mauritius (1502–1954), covering the printed record, manuscripts, archivalia and cartographic material. Port Louis, Esclapon Ltd. 1956. xvii, 884p.

TOUSSAINT, Auguste: Histoire de l'Ocean Indien. Paris, Presses Universitaires de France, 1960.

ADMINISTRATIVE

ADMINISTRATION AND POLITICS

RAE, William Charles, *Comp.*: A handbook on the constitution, practice and proceedings of the Council of Government of Mauritius. Mauritius, Central Printing Establishment, 1896. XXXIX, 228p.

SWETTENHAM, *Sir* Frank Athestane, *and others*: Report of the Mauritius Royal Commission, 1909, presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty, June 1910 (Cd.5185). London, Eyre and Spottiswoode Ltd., 1910.60, XIIIp.

Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence printed separately (Cd. 5186), 581p. Documents received by the Commission also printed separately (Cd. 5187), 135p.

SWINDEN, J. B.: Local Government in Mauritius. Mauritius, Government Press, 1946. 25p.

Revision of the Constitution. Correspondence with the Secretary of State for the Colonies. Mauritius, Government Press, 1947. 18p.

Problems of Parliamentary Government in Colonies—A report by the Hansard Society.

The development of rural local government in Mauritius. 12p. (Sessional Paper No. 2 of 1956).

Constitutional development in Mauritius. 56p. (Sessional Paper No. 3 of 1956).

Correspondence on proposals for Constitutional Changes. 5p (Sessional Paper No. 3 of 1957).

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

EVE, Malcolm Trustram. Report of the Mauritius Electoral Boundary Commission. 48p. (Sessional Paper No. 1, 1958).

NAPAL, D., *cd.* Les constitutions de L'île Maurice. (Publication No. 6 of the Mauritius Archives Publication Fund Committee). Port Louis, The Mauritius Printing Coy. Ltd., 1962. 150p

SOCIAL

POPULATION

BEEJADHUR, Aunauth, Les Indiens à l'Ile Maurice. Port Louis, La Typographie Moderne, 1935. 126p.

THORNTON WHITE, L. W. A master plan for Port Louis, Mauritius. South Africa, Cape Times Ltd., 1958. 89p., diag., plans.

UNIENVILLE, Noël, d': L'Ile Menacée. The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 109p., map. illus.

HERCHENRODER, M. *and others*. Report of the Committee on population, 1953-54. 55p. (Sessional Paper No. 4, 1955).

MAURITIUS. *Central Statistical Office*. Natality and fertility in Mauritius, 1825–1955. 1956. 58p.

HAZAREESINGH, K. A history of Indians in Mauitius, Port Louis. The General Printing Establishment, 1950. 220p.

SLAVERY

BERNARD, Eugène. Essai sur les nouveaux affranchis de l'Ile Maurice. Maurice, Imp. du Mauricien, 1834. 210p.

NOËL, Karl. La condition matérielle des esclaves à l'Ile de France, période française (1715–1810). *Revue d'Histoire des Colonies*, XL, 3e & 4e trimestre 1954, 303-313.

TOUSSAINT, Auguste, *ed.* Les missions d'Adrien d'Epinay (1830–1834). Port Louis, The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1946. XXXII, 216p.

EDUCATION

MACQUET, Adolphe. L'instruction à l'Ile Maurice, ancienne Ile de France à l'origine de sa colonisation. Port Louis, Engelbrecht & Cie., 1890. 36p.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

WARD, W. E. F.: Report on Education in Mauritius. Mauritius, Government Press, 1952. 58p.

Report of the Select Committee on the Ward Report on Education. Mauritius Government Press, 1953. 41p.

NICHOLS, A. E.: A report on secondary education in Mauritius. Mauritius, The Government Printer, 1949, 31, (2)p.

BENEDICT, Burton. Education without opportunity; education, economics and communalism in Mauritius. University of London, Institute of Commonwealth Studies, Reprint no. 4. 15p. (from *Human Relations*, XI, 4(1958), 315–329).

ECONOMICS

ECONOMICS

ELLIOT, Ivo D. *and* LOUGHNANE, N. G. Financial situation of Mauritius. Report of a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, December, 1931. Presented by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to Parliament by Command of His Majesty, March, 1932. (Cmd. 4034). London H.M. Stationery Office, 1932. 285p., map.

HOOPER, Charles Arthur, *and others*: Report of the Commission of enquiry into unrest on sugar estates in Mauritius, 1937. Mauritius, Government Press, 1938. XXIII, 253p.

LUCE, R. W. Report to the Government of Mauritius on Employment, unemployment and underemployment in the Colony in 1958 together with Report on an investigation into Wages and conditions of employment of labourers and artisans in the Sugar Industry (Sessional Paper No. 7 of 1958).
A time for decision (Sessional Paper No. 8 of 1958).

MOODY, S., *and others*. Report of the Commission of Enquiry into the disturbances which occurred in the North of Mauritius in 1943. London, n.d. 81p., 1 map.

COODE AND PARTNERS. Report on harbour facilities and suggested improvements at Port Louis, Mauritius. The Government Printer. 12p., 3 diags.

MAURITIUS. *Central Statistical Office*. The national income and national accounts of Mauritius, 1948–1954. Port Louis. Government Printing, 1956. 33p.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

AGRICULTURE AND AGRONOMY

NORTH COOMBES, A. Tea in Mauritius, 1817–1944. *Revue Agricole de l'île Maurice,* vol. XXIII, No.6, Nov.-Dec. 1944, 238-241.

An historical survey of the tea industry.

NORTH COOMBES, G. A. The fibre industry of Mauritius. Port Louis, The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1951. 85p.

MAURITIUS CHAMBER OF AGRICULTURE. The President's report for the year 1953–54. Centenary Number. The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1954. 117p. illus. tabs.

DUPAVILLON, F. Le manguier à l'île Maurice. Esclapon Ltd., ii, 130p.

SUGARCANE

WALTER, A. The sugar industry of Mauritius: a study in correlation. London, Arthur L. Humphreys, 1910. XVI, 228p.

NORTH COOMBES, A. The Evolution of Sugarcane Culture in Mauritius, with a chapter on the Evolution of the Mauritian Sugar Factory. Mauritius, General Printing, 1937. xv, 197p., illus., map.

SORNAY, Pierre de. La canne à sucre à l'île Maurice. Paris Challamel, 1920. VIII, 677p., illus., maps.

SORNAY, P. DE and SORNAY, A. DE: Manuel de la canne à sucre à l'usage des chargés de cours et des élèves des grandes écoles coloniales. Port Louis, The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1952. 279p. 22.5cm.

A revised 2nd edition.

SCIENTIFIC

METEOROLOGY

HERCHENRODER, MARC. La pluie à l'Ile Maurice. Étude de soixante années d'observations. Préface de Maxime Kœnig. Maurice. The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1935. 61p.

BOTANY

BAKER, J. G.: Flora of the Mauritius and the Seychelles. London, L. Reeve & Co., 1877, 557p.

VAUGHAN, R. E. *and* WIEHE, P. O.: Studies on the vegetation of Mauritius. *Journal of Ecology,* London. 1937–1947.

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HUBBARD, C. E. and VAUGHAN, R. E.: The grasses of Mauritius and Rodriguez. With a foreword by Sir Arthur W. Hill, Director, Royal Botanic Gardens. Kew. London, Waterlow & Sons, 1940. 128p., illus.

ZOOLOGY

BAISSAC, J. de B.: Poissons de l'île Maurice. *Proceedings Royal Society of Arts and Sciences of Mauritius*, 1950.

HACHISUKA, M.: The Dodo and kindred birds of the Mascarene Islands. London, Witherby, 1953, 250p., illus.

MAMET, R.: Cococoidea of Mauritius. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1949.

MAMET, R.: Hemiptera of Mauritius. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1957.

ROUNTREE, F. R. G. *and others*: Birds of Mauritius. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1952.

STRICKLAND, H. E. *and* MELVILLE, H. E.: The Dodo and its kindred; or the history, affinities and osteology of the Dodo, Solitaire and other extinct birds of the islands of Mauritius, Rodriguez and Bourbon. London, Reeve, Benham and Reeve, 1848. 142p., 9 woodcuts, 16 plates.

VINSON, J.: Lepidoptera of the Mascarene Islands. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1938.

VINSON, J.: Coleoptera of Mauritius and Rodriguez. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1956.

WHEELER, DR. J. F. G. and OMMANNEY, DR. F. D.: Report on the Mauritius—Seychelles fisheries survey, 1948–49. London, H.M.S.O., 1953. 145p.

WILLIAMS, J. R.: Hymenoptera of Mauritius. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1958.

ART

BRADSHAW, T.: Views in the Mauritius, or Isle of France, drawn from nature by T. Bradshaw, and on stone by William Rider, of Leamington; with a memoir of island, and a description of each view. London, James Carpenter & Son, 1832. 40 plates.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

LITERARY

GENERAL

ITHIER, J. J. Wasley. La littérature de langue française à l'Ile Maurice. Paris, Lib. M.Lac, 1930. 288p.

ROSNAY, Edouard Fromet de. Table Ovale — Poètes créoles: anthologie mauricienne; galerie poétique de l'Ile de France, 1803–1897. Port Louis, The Planters Gazette, 1897. 522p.

LITERARY PRODUCTIONS: French

CHAROUX, Clément: L'Ile Maurice au temps des diligences. Port Louis, General Printing and Stationery Co. Ltd., 1932. 81p.

GUEUVIN, Charles. Les savanaises, 1856-1866. T.I. and T.II. Port Louis, Typ. Mercantile Record, 1883; The Merchants and Planters Gazette, 1891.

HART, Robert-Edward: Mer Indienne, poèmes. Port Louis, General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1925. 82p.

LAGESSE, Marcelle. La diligence s'éloigne à l'aube. Port Louis, Esclapon, 1958. 252p.

LAGESSE, Marcelle. Le vingt floréal au matin. Paris, Julliard, 1960.

L'HOMME, Léoville. Poésies et poèmes. Port Louis, Esclapon, 1927. 142p.

MASSON, Loys: L'étoile et la clef. Paris, Gallimard, 1946. 366p.

SAINT PIERRE, Jacques Henri Bernardin de. Paul et Virginie.

First published in 1788 and since then often reprinted. The finest French edition is that of Curmer, Paris, 1838. A number of English and American translations are available.

STYLET, [Selmour AHNEE]. Fagots. 2v. Port Louis, Mauritius Printing Cy. Ltd., 1953, 1954. 288p; 330p.

LITERARY PRODUCTIONS: English

MALIM, Michael. Island of the Swan. London, Longmans, Green & Co., 1952. 232p.

OMMANEY, F. D. The Shoals of Capricorn. London, Spottiswoode, Ballantyne & Co. Ltd., 1952. 322p. illus.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

HISTORICAL

Early History

PITOT, Albert. T'Eylandt Mauritius. Esquisses historiques (1598–1710), précédées d'une notice sur la découverte des Mascareignes et suivies d'une monographie du Dodo, des Solitaires de Rodrigues et de Bourbon et de l'Oiseau Bleu. Maurice, Coignet frères & Cie., 1905. 372p.

The only complete history of Mauritius during the Dutch period.

VISDELOU-GUIMBEAU, G. de: La découverte des îles Mascareignes. Port Louis, the General Printing and Stationery Cy Ltd., 1949. 65p., illus.

CHAPUISET LE MERLE, André de. Précis d'histoire de l'Ile Maurice, XVe au XVIIIe siècle, Port Louis, Nouvelle Imprimerie Coopérative, 1950. 225p., illus.; maps.

French History

PITOT, Abert. L'Ile de France. Esquisses historiques (1715-1810). Port Louis, E. Pezzani, 1899. III, 447p.

MAHÉ DE LABOURDONNAIS, B. F. Mémoire des Iles de France et de Bourbon. Edité par Albert Lougnon et Auguste Toussaint. Paris, E. Leroux, 1937. IX, 204p.

The first complete edition of Labourdonnais' report to the French East India Company on his administration of Mauritius from 1735 to 1740, from the manuscript preserved in the Curepipe Carnegie Library, Mauritius.

PRENTOUT, Henri. L'Ile de France sous Decaen, 1803-1810. Paris Hachette, 1901. XIV 688p., front.

TOUSSAINT, A. *ed.* Early American Trade with Mauritius (Mauritius Archives Publications). Esclapon Ltd. 86p.

UNIENVILLE, J. Raymond M. d'. Last years of the Isle de France (1800–1814) through texts compiled and presented by J. Raymond d'Unienville. Port Louis, The Mauritius Printing Co. Ltd., 1959. 244p. illus.

CHELIN, A. Le théâtre à l'Ile Maurice: son origine et son développement. The Mauritius Printing Cy. Ltd. *(Société de l'Histoire de l'Ile Maurice,* No. 5). iii, 109p.

LY-TIO-FANE, Madeleine, *ed.* Mauritius and the Spice trade: the odyssey of Pierre Poivre. (Publication No. 4 of the Mauritius Archives Publication Fund Committee). Esclapon Ltd., 1958. 148p., illus.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

BIOGRAPHY AND MEMOIRS

Dictionary of Mauritian Biography, *ed.* by Dr. A. Toussaint. Publication of Société de l'Histoire de l'Ile Maurice. 25 parts.

MAURE, André. Souvenirs d'un vieux colon de l'Ile Maurice renfermant tous les événements qui lui sont arrivés depuis 1790 jusqu'en 1837, époque du bill d'émancipation, ce qui renferme une période de 46 ans, dédiés à Sir Walter Minto Farquhar, baronet, gouverneur et capitaine-général des Iles Maurice et dépendances. La Rochelle, Typ. de Frédéric Boutet, 1840. (VI), 526p.

BIJOUX, J. O. Rémy Ollier, sa vie et son oeuvre. Jugement de la postérité. Port Louis, Nouvelle Imprimerie Co-opérative, 1910. 452p., 1 plate.

Rémy Ollier was prominent among those who struggled for the abolition of the colour bar in Mauritius in the first half of the 19th century.

CREPIN, Pierre. Mahé de Labourdonnais. Paris, E. Leroux, 1922. XXXVI, 488p., illus., maps.

Thesis submitted for the degree of *Docteur-ès-Lettres* of the University of Paris. Labourdonnais was one of the most successful French governors of Mauritius.

DELAPLACE, Revd. F. Le Père Jacques-Désiré Laval, apôtre de l'Ile Maurice, 1803–1864, *ed.*, revue et augmentée par le Père J. M. Pivault. Paris, Gabriel Beauchesne, 1932. XLVI, 396p. XII.

OLMSTED, J. M. D. Charles Edouard Brown-Séquard; a nineteenth century neurologist and endocrinologist. Baltimore, the Johns Hopkins press, 1946. 253p. front.

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GEOGRAPHY

ARDILL, R. H. A School Geography of Mauritius. Mauritius Government Press, 1945. 55p., maps and diagrams.

Guide Bleu. Madagascar, Comores, Réunion, Ile Maurice; établi par Claude Janicot. Paris, Hachette, 1955. 7th Section, pp. 405–422.

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APPENDIX IV—*Continued*

TRAVELS

LEGUAT, François. Voyage et aventures de François Leguat et de ses compagnons en deux îles désertes des Indes Orientales, avec la relation des choses les plus remarquables qu'ils ont observées dans l'Isle Maurice, à Batavia, au Cap de Bonne Espérance, dans l'isle de Ste. Hélène et en d'autres endroits de leur route. Londres, David Mortier, 1708. 2 vols. with plates and maps.

English edition with notes by Captain Pasfield Olivier for the Hakluyt Society. London, 1891, 2 vols.

SAINT PIERRE, Bernardin de: Voyage à l'Isle de France, à l'Isle de Bourbon, au Cap de Bonne Espérance . . . par un officier du Roi. Paris, Merlin, 1773. 2v.

BORY DE ST VINCENT, J. B. G. M. Voyage dans les quatre principales îles des mers d'Afrique, fait par ordre du gouvernement, pendant les années neuf et dix de la République (1801 et 1802) avec l'histoire de la traversée du Capitaine Baudin jusqu'au Port Louis de l'Ile Maurice. Paris, F. Buisson, 1804. 3v. 1 atlas.

BILLIARD, Auguste. Voyage aux colonies orientales, ou lettres écrites des Iles de France et de Bourbon pendant les années 1817, 1818, 1819 et 1820 à M. le Cte. de Montalivet. Paris, Ladvocat, 1822. XIX, 406p.

BACKHOUSE, James. A narrative of a visit to the Mauritius and South Africa. London, Hamilton, Adams & Co., 1844 xvi, 648p. lvip.

RYAN, Vincent W. Mauritius and Madagascar: journals of an eight years' residence in the diocese of Mauritius and of a visit to Madagascar., 340p., illus.

PIKE, Nicholas. Sub-tropical rambles on the land of the Aphanapteryx, personal experiences, adventures and wanderings in and around the island of Mauritius. London, Sampson Low, Marston and Searle, 1873. (II), XVIII, 512p., illus., 15 plates, maps.

AVINE, Grégoire. Les voyages du chirurgien Avine à l'Ile de France et dans la mer des Indes au début du XIXe siècle, publiés par Raymond Decary, Membre de l'Académie des Sciences d'Outre-Mer. (Publication No. 5 of the Mauritius Archives Publication Fund Committee). 85p., illus.

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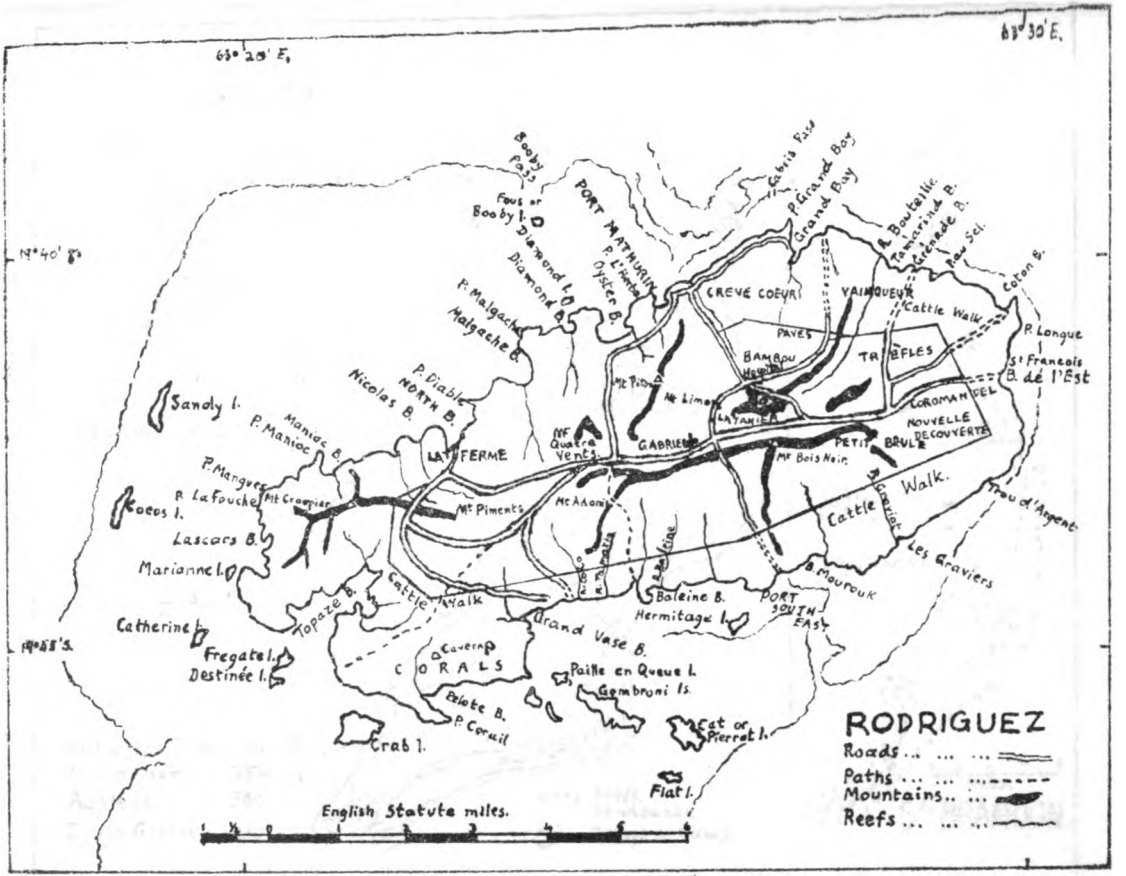
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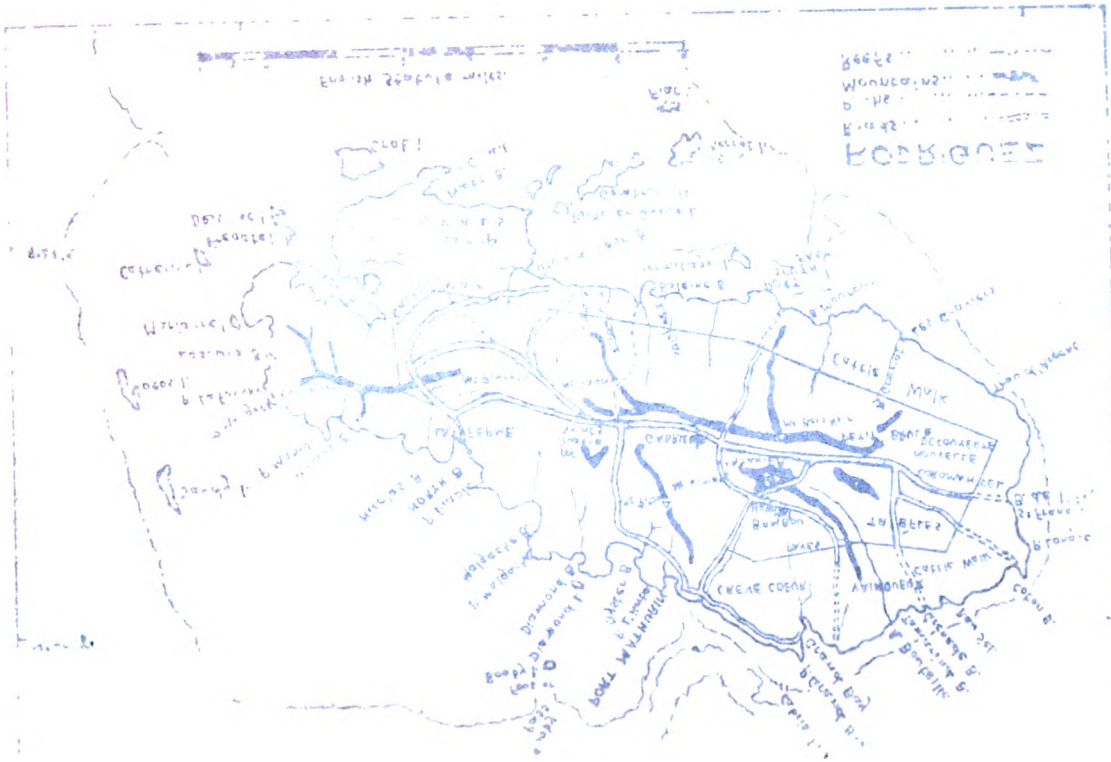
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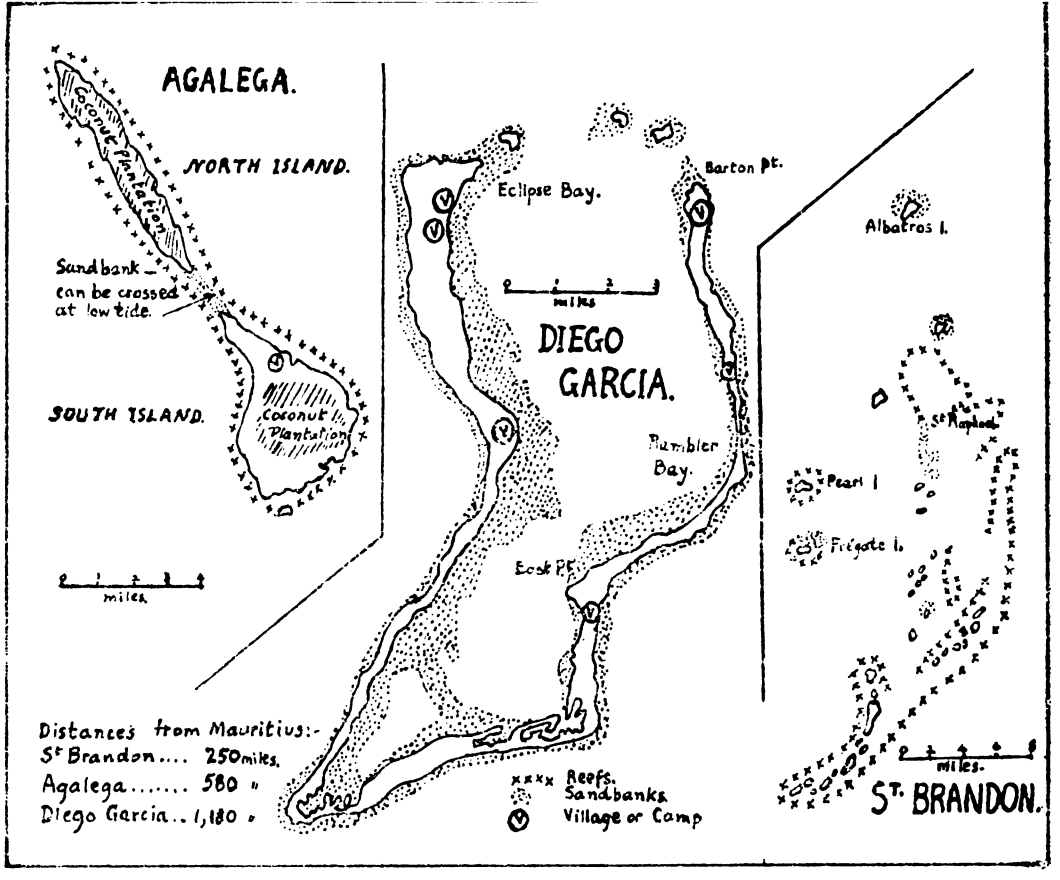
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AGALEGA.
NORTH ISLAND.
Coconut Plantations
Sandbank — can be crossed at low tide.
SOUTH ISLAND.
Coconut Plantation
miles
Eclipse Bay.
Barton Pt.
miles
DIEGO GARCIA.
Plumbier Bay.
East Pt.
Albatros I.
St Raphael
Pearl I
Frégate I.
miles
ST. BRANDON.
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Agalega..... 580 "
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Sandbanks
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Report for the year 1963

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PART I

Review of the Year 1963

POLITICAL

The General Elections

The General Elections to the Legislative Council were held in October. This was the second election based on universal adult suffrage. After consulting the Chief Minister the Governor dissolved the Legislative Council by Proclamation on the 4th September; the register of electors came into force on the 5th September; and Writs of Election for the forty constituencies were issued on the same day. The Governor appointed the 23rd September as nomination day and the 21st October as polling day.

Each of the forty constituencies was contested. In all there were 139 candidates: 35 belonged to the Labour Party, 23 to the Independent Forward Block, 21 to the Parti Mauricien, 9 to the Muslim Committee of Action, 7 to the Parti Travailliste des Travailleurs, and 2 to the Tamil United Party. In addition there were 16 candidates from other political parties and 26 Independent candidates standing for election, one of whom had the support of the Parti Mauricien. As in 1959 the Labour Party and Muslim Committee of Action concluded an electoral alliance; the Parti Mauricien was allied to the Tamil United Party. Symbols of identification were allotted to the candidates from a set of approved symbols: party candidates used the symbols allotted to their respective parties and Independents had individually allotted symbols.

Polling took place simultaneously in all the 40 constituencies and was relatively heavy—84.5 per cent of the 233,488 registered electors. The whole operation was smoothly conducted, and such few incidents as did occur were of minor importance.

The results were:—

	Seats gained	*Percentage on total number of valid votes*
Labour Party	19	42.3
Parti Mauricien	8	19.2
Independent Forward Block ...	7	18.9
Muslim Committee of Action	4	7.1
Independents	2	8.2
Parti Travailliste des Travailleurs and Other small Parties	0	4.3
	40	100.00

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The 1959 figures were:—

	Seats gained	Percentage on total number of valid votes
Labour Party	23	46.73
Independent Forward Block	6	19.60
Muslim Committee of Action	5	8.57
Parti Mauricien	3	15.01
Independents	3	8.60
Other Parties	0	1.49
	40	100.00

The names of the members returned are given in Appendix III. In terms of communities the results of the 1963 General Elections were very close to the forecast made in the Report of the Trustam Eve Commission (Sessional Paper No. 1 of 1958).

Five election petitions in respect of the elections for the constituencies of Port Louis (G.R.N.W.), Port Louis (Maritime), Plaine Magnien, Mahebourg and Goodlands were presented to the Supreme Court. All were still for hearing on 31st December, 1963.

After the General Election the Governor completed the membership of the Legislative Council by nominating 12 Members after consulting the Chief Minister and other Party Leaders. Their names are given in Appendix III.

The Governor also appointed nine unofficial Ministers to the Executive Council: five from the Labour Party, two from the Muslim Committee of Action, one from the Independent Forward Block and one Independent, a Nominated Member representing " special interests ". It had been hoped that the Parti Mauricien would participate in the new Government but the agreement reached on their entry broke down at the last moment and they felt obliged to withdraw. Ministers in the new Government assumed office on the 12th November. A list showing their portfolios is at Appendix II.

The Legislative Council met on the 12th November for the swearing in of members. The formal opening took place on the 19th November, after which Council approved, by 41 votes to 11 with 1 abstention, a resolution moved by the Chief Minister that:—

" This Council resolves that the Second Stage of Constitutional Advance set out in Sessional Paper No. 5 of 1961 be now implemented ".

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The Chief Scout, Sir Charles Maclean, Br., H.M.L., J.P. visited the island in June, 1963, He is seen at a rally organised at Le Reduit.

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Part of the Mauritius stand at the International Trade Fair in Madagascar.

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Local Government Elections

In May the Government decided to extend the town boundaries of Port Louis, Beau Bassin, Rose Hill, Quatre Bornes and Curepipe. As a result the bulk of the Parti Mauricien members resigned. Government then introduced the Local Government (Transitional Powers) Bill, 1963, to lengthen by two months the period preceding the next general elections for the constitution of local authorities during which the occurrence of a vacancy in a local authority other than a Village Council would necessitate an election for the filling of such vacancies. The Bill was passed on the 17th May.

The Elections to the Municipal Council of Port Louis, the Town Councils of Curepipe, Beau Bassin/Rose Hill, Quatre Bornes and the new Town Council of Vacoas/Phoenix were held on the 15th December on the basis of the extended boundaries.

There were 38 candidates at Port Louis, 23 at Curepipe, 22 at Beau Bassin/Rose Hill, 24 at Quatre Bornes and 23 at Vacoas/Phoenix. The Labour Party, allied with the Muslim Committee of Action, presented 59 candidates in all, 16 at Port Louis, 11 at Curepipe, 9 at Beau Bassin/Rose Hill, 12 at Quatre Bornes and 11 at Vacoas/Phoenix. The Parti Mauricien, supported by the Tamil United Party, presented 64 candidates in all, 16 at Port Louis and 12 at each of the four Town Councils.

The results were:—

	Parti Mauricien		Labour Party	
	Seats	*Relative % of total votes cast*	*Seats*	*Relative % of total votes cast*
Port Louis	14	50.1	2	47.4
Beau Bassin—Rose Hill ...	12	66.8	—	33.2
Curepipe	12	67.5	—	32.5
Vacoas—Phœnix	12	55.5	—	44.5
Quatre Bornes	—	45.2	12	54.8
	50		14	

The percentage of the electorate who voted were:—

Port Louis	74.2
Beau Bassin—Rose Hill ...	70.7
Curepipe	73.9
Vacoas—Phœnix	77.6
Quatre Bornes	77.4

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In the pre-election period feeling ran high and the Commission of Police, with the consent of the Governor, prohibited the holding of public meetings and public processions in Port Louis and Plaines Wilhems Districts for a month from the 26th November. This precautionary measure permitted the elections to pass off quietly and without any serious incident.

FINANCIAL

The closing of the Colony's accounts for the year 1962-63 showed a deficit of Rs 5.1m against an estimated surplus of Rs 0.5m., expenditure having been underestimated by Rs 3.0m., and revenue overestimated by Rs 2.6m. The fall in revenue resulted from the effect of two successive indifferent sugar crops upon the economy as a whole. Stocks of imported goods were run down with a resultant decrease in the yield from import duties; and the yield from income tax was comparatively low mainly because of a reduction in the profits of sugar companies.

The ceiling of the Reconstruction and Development Programme 1960-65, which had been reduced from Rs 354m to Rs 341.86m because of a reduction in the scope of the cyclone housing programme, was restored to Rs 354m with the approval of the Secretary of State. Capital expenditure rose once more in 1962-63 to a figure of Rs 64.11m, as compared with Rs 52.05m and Rs 45.73m respectively during the previous two financial years. Major expenditure concerned the construction of the southern entrance road to Port Louis in continuation of the trunk road, further work on the Plaines Wilhems sewerage scheme, development in the harbour area, and a greatly increased volume of construction of low-cost housing under the Central Housing Authority's cyclone rehousing scheme.

The revised projections for the financing of the programme are as follows:—

	Rs m
Local Resources	150.78
C.D. & W. Funds (other than grant for low-cost cyclone housing programme)	23.91
Loans and grants from Colonial Services Vote (other than grants for low-cost cyclone housing programme	28.73
Loans and grants from Her Majesty's Government for low-cost cyclone housing programme	72.20
Loans from external sources	58.78
Miscellaneous grants	.33
TOTAL ...	334.73

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Sugar Industry

1963 was a memorable year for the sugar industry in three respects: the crop was an all-time record; the Balogh Commission completed its Report; and Government introduced a major change in the method of settling wages and conditions of employment by establishing Wages Councils for both agricultural and non-agricultural workers and then making Wages Regulation Orders on the basis of proposals submitted by the Wages Councils.

After a year free from serious cyclones or drought the sugar crop reached the record figure of 685,600 metric tons, as compared with the previous record of 580,400 metric tons in 1959. Climatic conditions were normal during the year and the large increase in production can be attributed mainly to improved methods of cultivation and improved varieties of cane. The yield of cane per acre averaged 29.8 tons, yet another record. This more than compensated for a lower sucrose content of 11.93 as compared with the average of 12.57 for the years 1956-59. It is probable that the sucrose content figure would have been higher, if the industry had not been compelled to start cutting the crop about four weeks earlier than usual, to enable the factories to crush the higher tonnage of cane before the end of December. The tonnage of canes crushed reached 5,746,672, some 800,000 tons more than the 1961 record.

The negotiated price under the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement for the year 1964 was £46.0.10d (C.I.F.) per long ton as in 1963; but the quota allowed to Mauritius was increased by 5 per cent. The gross value of sugar exports for the crop year 1963 was of the order of Rs 473.2m as compared with Rs 278.9m for 1962. The increase in production combined with the higher price of sugar on the world market to produce an abnormal increase in the net proceeds of the crop. Nevertheless, inflation was avoided and the cost of living remained stable, despite an increase in currency circulation to a figure of over Rs 100m at the end of the year.

In April 1963 Dr. Balogh and Mr. Bennett presented the report of the Commission of Inquiry into the sugar industry. They had been appointed in October of the previous year with the following terms of reference to inquire into:—

(a) the present basis of the apportionment of sugar accruing to planters and millers; whether the system now operating is being equitably administered having regard to the recent allegations to the contrary made in the local press;

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(b) the present methods of sampling canes delivered to the factory yard by planters and assessing sugar produced from planters' canes;

(c) the facilities available to planters to check on the sampling and analysis of their canes at sugar factories for the purpose of assessment of sugar;

(d) the present system of credit facilities available to planters;

(e) the cost of production, in field and factory, of the sugar industry, having regard to the pressing need for ensuring that a fair share of the proceeds of the industry, in the form of wages and salaries, accrues to all the workers engaged in the industry.

Their report was published in November 1963 and laid on the Table of the Legislative Council as Sessional Paper No. 4 of 1963.The report found the allegations unsubstantiated but made various recommendations for changes in the law and in practice.

Two Wages Councils for the sugar industry, one for agricultural workers and the other for non-agricultural workers, were established during the year and their main proposals were embodied in July 1963 in Wages Regulation Orders made by the Minister of Labour, with the approval of the Governor-in-Council, under the Regulation of Wages and Conditions of Employment Ordinance, 1961 (No. 71 of 1961).

Commerce and Industry

The number of visitors to Mauritius continued to increase and shortage of hotel accommodation was experienced at peak periods. Discussions took place within the tourist industry between Mauritius, Reunion, Madagascar and the Comoro Islands with a view to co-operation in this field on a regional basis.

Mauritius was represented at the International Trade Fair at Tananarive, Madagascar, in September. The Mauritius pavilion erected and decorated under the supervision of the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and External Communications, was a great success and attracted many visitors.

The Government's policy towards the encouragement of industry was published in June 1963 as Sessional Paper No. 2 of 1963 setting out the various incentives offered to potential investors. This document was distributed in many countries among business, commercial and industrial communities. In order further to stimulate the diversification of the economy, plans were laid to establish early in 1964 the Development Bank of Mauritius, which will provide long-term finance for secondary industries within the framework of Government's economic policy.

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An important new secondary industry was born in September with the opening at Phoenix of the brewery built by Mauritius Breweries Ltd. The new industry, which employs some hundred and fifty workers, produces about 30,000 bottles of beer daily. The demand for this new local product, Phoenix Beer, has been greater than anticipated at the outset and the Company has decided to enlarge its factory. Extension will be completed in 1964.

Central Electricity Board

An agreement between the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the Government of Mauritius was signed in Washington on 23rd September 1963. It provides for a loan equivalent to seven million United States dollars to be drawn in portions as required between the time of the agreement coming into force and early 1966. This amount will be on-lent to the Central Electricity Board to help finance the construction of a new 12,000 Kilowatt diesel power station at Fort Victoria Port Louis, together with ancillary transmission and distribution works. The project will increase the island's power supply by almost one third, strengthen the transmission system in urban areas, reduce losses in transmission, and extend the service in rural areas.

Total production of electricity for the year amounted to 86.8 million units, an increase of 9.9 million units, or 13 per cent over 1962. Production was spread between the various sources of generation as follows:—

	%
Hydro	45.7
Thermal	34.1
Purchases from Sugar Estates ...	20.2
	100.0

While thermal generation remained at about the same level as the previous year, hydro generation went down by 9.4 per cent and purchase from sugar estates went up by 8.7 per cent.

Cascade Cecile Hydro Station was reconstructed and recommissioned in September. It has a capacity of 1,000 KW. Fort Victoria Thermal Power Station is still under construction, and it is expected that the first generating set will be commissioned in March, 1964.

Communications

The construction of a double carriage way between Port Louis and Phoenix, completed in 1962, was followed by the construction of the new access road from the docks to the trunk road. This new access road was used for the transport of the record sugar crop by road after the closing down of the Railways from the south to Port Louis. The last section of the railway from Port Louis to the east of the island will disappear in 1964.

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The new automatic exchanges at Port Louis and Rose Hill, commissioned at the end of 1962, together with the introduction of high-grade trunk circuits between the main centres, provided a much improved service during 1963.

Social Services

The foundation stone was laid of a building at Vuillemin in Lower Plaines Wilhems which will accommodate a secondary school for boys with a scientific and technical bias, part-time courses of further education in commercial subjects, and basic vocational training courses for craftsmen.

Professor Colin Leys, Professor of Political Science and Public Administration, Makerere University College, visited Mauritius from the 13th to the 27th May 1963 to advise on the development of a university institution in Mauritius based on the College of Agriculture at Reduit.

Following the notification of 3 cases of poliomyelitis during the year an anti-polio vaccination campaign with the Sabin vaccine was organized. About 60,000 doses of the vaccine were administered to infants and pre-school children.

Alterations and improvements to hospitals were continued during the year. At Victoria Hospital, the Ophthalmic Unit was completed. To the district hospitals at Flacq, Mahebourg and Souillac were added new wards with an aggregate of 80 additional beds.The administrative block at Poudre d'Or Hospital was re-built. The Foundation stone was laid for the new Central Hospital at Pamplemousses.

Help from the World Health Organization continued to be received in the fields of tuberculosis, malaria, and nutrition, and UNICEF help also continued in the field of maternal and child health. Mauritius became an Associate Member of the World Health Organization during the year.

The housing schemes initiated in 1960 after cyclone Carol by the Central Housing Authority and the Committee of the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund continued during the year. The most striking feature of the Fund's housing programme was the decision to build some 200 dockers' flats at Roche Bois, Port Louis for regular workers employed by any member of the Association of Port and Harbour Employers. These workers had been brought within the scope of the Fund by the Sugar Industry Reserve Funds (Amendment) Ordinance, 1962.

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The Mauritius Housing Corporation was established with effect from 1st January 1963 and charged with the responsibility for issuing housing loans. These functions had previously been exercised by the Mauritius Agricultural Bank on a scale limited by the financial resources available. The new Corporation will have fresh loan capital amounting to Rs 13.3m, and will thus be enabled to extend its operations into the field of housing estates. Negotiations have proceeded with the Commonwealth Development Corporation to provide half the loan capital, the remainder to be found by Government on a matching basis.

The Public Service

The Federation of Civil Service and Primary Aided School Teachers' Unions called a one-day strike on Friday, the 15th March, 1963, among Government and Aided Primary School Teachers, in protest against Government's refusal to refer to the Civil Service Arbitration Tribunal, as requested by the Federation, certain salary claims in respect of Teachers about which a decision had already been taken by the Government and approved by the Legislative Council in November, 1962.

After a formal request by the Federation to the Minister of Labour and Social Security for his intervention in the dispute, the Governor approved, on the recommendation of the Minister, the institution of a Board of Inquiry composed of a single Judge, in accordance with Section 13(3) of the Trade Dispute Ordinance (No. 37 of 1954), as subsequently amended, to enquire into and report on certain questions of interpretation connected with the dispute.

The Board of Inquiry, consisting of Mr. Justice M. J. J. L. Rivalland, M.B.E., Senior Puisne Judge, held in all thirteen sittings and its report was tabled in the Legislative Council in October, 1963. At the end of the year negotiations were, in the light of the Board's findings, still being pursued between Government and the representatives of the Staff Side through the Central Whitley Council.

As a result of the Wages Orders' revision of the wages payable to agricultural and non-agricultural workers employed in the sugar industry, Government introduced a parallel revision for comparable grades of employees in the public service.

Miscellaneous

The figures of the census held on the 30th June, 1962 were published. The total population was 681,619 as compared with 501,145 in 1952. The division of the population by age groups shows that 45.3 per cent of the population was under 15 years of age on the 30th June, 1962.

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In May, Mauritius had the honour, for the first time in its history, of welcoming the Chief Scout. Sir Charles Maclean, Bt., H.M.L., J.P., arrived on the 10th May. The visit was marked by a Scout rally at Government House, Le Réduit, and by a camp fire at the Rose Hill stadium.

The Mauritius Branch of the British Red Cross Society celebrated the Red Cross centenary at the Mauritius Turf Club where the Governor presided over a rally on the 15th June. The Minister of Health praised the devotion of the members of the Red Cross on the occasion of recent cyclones. Mauritius, like other members of the Commonwealth, marked the centenary by a special issue of stamps.

The fiftieth anniversary of the Co-operative Movement in Mauritius was celebrated in July under the auspices of the Mauritius Co-operative Union Ltd. and in the presence of representatives of national and international co-operative movements from Europe. Africa, Asia and America. The celebrations were spread over the first fortnight of July; they included a short seminar, film shows and conferences, group discussions, visits to long established primary societies, regional gatherings, as well as tours of places of interest in the island.

The efficiency of the Government Printing Department was further increased by the installation of the latest model of Linotype machines in March.

The Dependencies

In Rodrigues plans were completed to reconstitute the Island Advisory Council on a new basis with two representatives from each of the five Parish Councils. The programme of agricultural development was continued and a start was made with the establishment of dairy farms.

The island was visited by two cyclones " GRACE " in February 1963 and " AMANDA " in December 1963. In between the two there was a very severe drought which justified the granting of relief work.

The new Pointe La Gueule prison was completed in November.

Honours

Her Majesty the Queen was graciously pleased to approve the following appointments and awards on the occasion of the New Year and on Her Birthday:

New Year

The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire

Knight Grand Cross

Sir Colville Montgomery Deverell, K.C.M.G., C.V.O., O.B.E.

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Knight Bachelor

ANDRÉ LAURENCE NAIRAC, C.B.E., Q.C.

The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire

Commander

ABDOOL RAMAN MAHOMED OSMAN

Officers

EDWIN GEORGE DAVY

ARTHUR JESSOP

Members

ECOSSE HUMBERT

LOUIS FRANCOIS RIVET

BIRTHDAY

The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire

Officers

JOHN MAIN THOMSON BREBNER ROSS

JOSEPH LUCIEN JEAN VINSON

Members

BEATRICE MAUD FLASHMAN

ABDOOL GAFFOOR ABDOOL RAMAN

Colonial Police Medal

MARIE REYNOLD CARL DE SOUZA

CADRIVEL SAMINATHEN

CYRIL TOUR

Certificates and Badges of Honour

His Excellency the Governor approved the following awards:—

NEW YEAR

LÉON PRUDENCE

JAGDEO ROODURMUN

MRS. ELIANE SEVREMONT

BIRTHDAY

JOSEPH SAMUEL BAS

MAURICE EDOUARD

VISITORS

Visitors to Mauritius during 1963 included the following:—

MR. B. H. M. MAXWELL, Australian Government Trade Commissioner for Mauritius (with residence in Johannesburg).

CAPTAIN P. J. BAYNE, D.S.C., Royal Navy, Chief of Staff to the Commander-in-Chief, South Atlantic and South America Station.

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Mr. E. Ruppin, Israeli Consul-General for Mauritius (with residence in Madagascar).

Air Chief Marshal Sir Edmund Hudleston, G.C.B., C.B.E., A.D.C., Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Transport Command.

Mr. A. R. Thomas, C.M.G., Assistant Under-Secretary of State, Colonial Office.

The Honourable Mr. Justic Briggs, Chief Justice of the Western Pacific.

Mr. G. Koulischer, Director, East African Field Office, I.L.O.

Major Sir Ferdinand Cavendish-Bentinck, K.B.E., C.M.G., M.C., former Speaker of the Kenya Legislative Council, and Lady Cavendish-Bentinck.

Professor Colin Leys, professor of Political Science and Public Administration, Makerere University College.

Sir Charles Maclean, Bt., Chief Scout, British Commonwealth.

Mr. C. Dymoke Green, O.B.E., Commonwealth Commissioner, Boy Scout Association.

Vice-Admiral A. A. F. Talbot, C.B., D.S.O., Commander-in-Chief, South Atlantic and South America Station.

Mr. J. N. Craddock-Turnbull, Rural Institutions Officer, I.L.O.

Mr. P. R. Noakes, O.B.E., Chief Information Officer, Colonial Office.

Mr. J. T. Stonehouse, M.P.

Mr. R .Rivett, Director, International Press Institute.

Mr. N. J. Smith, Bureau Manager, United Press International.

Dr. H. Seidler, Member of the Federal German Institute for Economic Research.

Sir Ivo Stourton, C.M.G., O.B.E., Inspector-General of Colonial Police, Colonial Office.

Vice-Admiral A. Patou, French Mediterranean Fleet.

Visiting Ships

The Colony was visited by H.M. Yatch Britannia in April; H.M.S. Leopard in June; by H.M.S. Ashanti in August. The French Cruiser De Grasse, flying the flag of Vice-Admiral Patou, visited Port Louis in November.

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PART II

Chapter I: Population

A census of the population, which was taken during the night of the 30th June-1st July 1962, gave the following results:

Males ...	...	342,306
Females	...	339,313
TOTAL	...	681,619

The population of Mauritius as at the 31st December, 1963, was estimated therefrom at 713,381.

The natural increase, that is the excess of births over deaths in 1963 was 21,269, a number which is nearly 8 times the corresponding average for the five pre-war years (1935-39).

Civilian departures from the Colony exceeded arrivals by 241.

The average density of the population for the Island was 974 per square mile (calculated on the mid-year population).

BIRTHS

The number of live births during the year 1963 was 27,978 an increase of 1711 on the number for 1962, but an increase of 3,462 on the yearly average number of births for the ten years ending with 1962:

Males	*Females*	*Total*	*Male births per 1,000 female births*
14,263	13,715	27,978	1,040

The following are the birth rates (per 1,000 of the mid-year population) for the last six years:

1958	*1959*	*1960*	*1961*	*1962*	*1963*
40.4	38.1	39.3	39.4	38.5	39.9

Still-births, which are not included as either births or deaths, numbered 1,519 (827 males, 692 females), corresponding to a rate of 5.4 per hundred live-births, as compared with 1,841 still-births, corresponding to a rate of 7.0 in 1962.

DEATHS

Deaths registered in Mauritius numbered 6,709 corresponding to a rate of 9.6 per 1,000 of the population. The month of maximum mortality was May with 739 deaths:

	Males	*Females*	*Total*
Number of deaths in 1963 ...	3,457	3,252	6,709
Rate per 1,000 of population	9·8	9·3	9·6

The average death rate for the period 1953-62 was 12.2.

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Infantile Mortality

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age during 1963 was 1,660 (1,579 in 1962). This number was considerably lower than in the quinquennial period 1944-48.

The following table shows the infantile mortality rate i.e. the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live-births:

Year	*Rate*
1944–1948 (average)	154·9
1954	81·1
1955	67·2
1956	66·0
1957	75·1
1958	67·4
1959	62·5
1960	69·5
1961	62·0
1962	60.1
1963	59.3

Marriages

The following table gives the number of marriages for the last five years:

1959	*1960*	*1961*	*1962*	*1963*
3,297	3,113	3,481	3,893	3,472

Movement of the Civil Population

	Males	*Females*	*Total*
Arrivals ...	10,866	7,108	17,974
Departures...	11,024	7,191	18,215

These figures include the very small figure of engaged or discharged seamen, and emigrants and immigrants to and from the dependencies.

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Chapter 2: Occupations, Wages and Labour Organization

EMPLOYMENT

An analysis of the employment in selected industries in 1963 under main industrial groups is shown in the table below:—

Code	Industry	Number of persons employed		
		Males	*Females*	*Total*
0	Agriculture, forestry hunting and fishing	57,478	13,388	70,866
1	Mining and quarrying	126	34	160
2–3	Manufacturing	25,119	2,281	27,400
4	Construction	19,761	73	19,834
5	Electricity, gas, water and sanitary services	2,182	94	2,276
6	Commerce	17,093	1,709	18,802
7	Transport, storage and communications	11,651	181	11,832
8	Services	19,539	15,492	35,031
9	Activities not adequately described ...	1,136	64	1,200
	TOTAL ...	154,085	33,316	187,401

The above figures are taken from the national census held on 30th June, 1962.

The main industry of the island is the growing of sugar as a plantation crop. Some 67,000 workers are employed in this industry during the harvest or "crop" season, from July to December and 55,000 during the intercrop season.

The number of persons registered by the Employment Service during 1963 was as follows:—

Month	*Persons registered*
January	3,353
February	2,090
March	2,105
April	2,032
May	1,808
June	1,574
July	2,270
August	1,728
September	1,643
October	2,155
November	2,281
December	2,266
TOTAL ...	25,305

A total of 6,468 placings were effected during the same period as compared to 4,519 during the previous year.

In the sugar industry daily paid workers who have worked for an employer for at least 80 per cent of the number of working

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days during the harvest period are thereafter entitled to six days paid leave in January and to be paid for every estate holiday. Monthly workers who have remained in employment during 80 per cent of the crop period, except for absences on account of sickness, are entitled to 10 days' leave on full pay during the following year, and to be paid for estate holidays *(the Wages Regulation Orders for the sugar industry, Government Notices Nos. 59 and 60 of 1963)*.

Wages and Hours of Work

Two wages councils for the sugar industry, one for agricultural workers and the second for non agricultural workers, were established during the year and their main proposals were embodied in Wages Regulation Orders *(Government Notices Nos 59 and 60 of 1963)*.

The wages council for the distributive trades made proposals to the Minister of Labour, who subsequently made the Wages Regulation (Distributive Trades) Order, 1963, (Government Notice No. 92 of 1963), which became effective on 1st December, 1963. This order revoked the Wages Regulation (Shopping Trade) Order, 1957.

The wages council for messengers made proposals to the Minister, who subsequently made the Wages Regulation (Messengers) Order, 1963, *(Government Notice No. 39 of 1963)*, which became effective on 1st July, 1963. This order revoked the Wages Regulation (Messengers) Order, 1952.

The wages council for the catering industry made no proposals during the year.

The range of average daily wages of the principal categories of workers in the various industries is shown in the following table:—

Category of workers	*Average daily wages Rupees*		*Average No. of hours actually worked per week*	
	Minimum	*Maximum*	*Minimum*	*Maximum*
Clerical	8.85*	18.65*	39.4	45.0
Labourers	3.35	5.35	38.0	45.0
Sirdars, foremen, contremaitres ...	5.55	11.75	40.0	49.7
Drivers (vehicle)	5.70	8.00	33.5	58.0
Bus conductors	7.00		51.8	
Mechanics and fitters	5.75	7.75	43.5	59.6
Electricians	4.20	6.75	48.0	50.2
Carpenters and joiners	6.85	7.80	44.9	46.5
Masons	7.55	8.45	46.0	47.1
Pan boilers	7.10		53.2	
Drivers (plant)	6.10		49.1	
Watchmen	4.45	6.10	50.4	118.0

* monthly rates divided by 26

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Following the increase of wage rates for agricultural and non agricultural workers of the sugar industry as provided for in Government Notices Nos. 59 and 60 of 1963, an increase in wage rates was given to manual workers employed in the Government service.

The daily wage rates and weekly hours of work of manual workers in government employment were as follows:—

	Maximum wages	*Minimum wages*	*No. of hrs. worked per week*
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	
Foremen	14.00	11.00	45
Artisans	10.70	7.20	45
Hospital servants ...	7.81	6.38	45
Labourers	6.00	5.60	45

Some Government departments work from 9 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. on week days with half an hour break for lunch and from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. Others have adopted the five-day week and work from 8.45 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a half-hour break. Business offices follow more or less the same practice.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL SECURITY

During the year the Public Assistance Department was fully integrated with the Ministry and the duties and powers of the Assistance Commissioner who was also the Pensions Authority for Old Age Pensions and Benefit Authority for Family Allowance were transferred to the Permanent Secretary. The duties and powers exercised by the Labour Commissioner were also transferred to the Permanent Secretary.

For administrative purposes the Ministry is divided into:—

Headquarters, responsible for overall administration, with a Permanent Secretary, a Principal Assistant Secretary, an Assistant Secretary (Labour), an Assistant Secretary (Social Security), an Administrative Assistant and executive and clerical staff;

The Inspectorate, comprising the field inspectorate, industrial relations and the factory inspectorate;

The Employment Service;

The Registry of Associations;

The Social Assistance Branch;

The Family Allowance Branch;

The Finance Branch.

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The main functions of the Ministry comprise the following:—

advice to the Minister on all matters of policy affecting his portfolio;

formulation of employment policy and man-power assessment;

the uniform application of the relevant legislation and the introduction of new or amended legislation;

the maintenance of a labour field inspectorate including an industrial relations branch and a factory inspectorate;

the maintenance of an employment service;

control and supervision of the Social Assistance Branch which is responsible for indoor and outdoor reliefs, and old age pensions;

control and supervision of the Family Allowance Branch;

control and supervision of the Registry of Associations;

compilation of reports on International Labour Conventions;

compilation and publication of statistical and other information related to the activities of the Ministry;

general direction of the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund Committee;

control and supervision of the small-scale industries branch.

Trade Unions

There were at the end of June, 1963, 85 trade unions consisting of 40 associations of employees in private employment, 31 of government servants, 12 of employers and 2 registered federations. The total membership on the rolls was 42,386 of which 39,873 were compliance members.

The larger workers trade unions and their membership on rolls are:—

The Plantation Workers Union (14,104 members)

The Agricultural and Other Workers Union (7,536 members)

The Union of Primary School Teachers (1,747 members)

The Sugar Industry and Mechanical Engineering Workers' Union (1,502 members)

The Government and Non-Government General Employees Union (1,351 members)

The Government Servants and Other Employees Association (1,336 members)

The Government Labour Power Union (1,259 members)

The General Port, Harbour and Other Workers' Union (942 members)

The Seaport Workers Union (926 members)

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The Government Unskilled, Semi-skilled and Skilled Workers Union (799 members)
The Artisans and General Workers Union (798 members)
The Sugar Industry Staff Employees Association (788 members)
The Nursing Association (750 members)
The Electrical and Other Workers Union (736 members)
The Government Teachers Union (595 members)
The Shop and Commercial Workers Union (575 members)
The Government and Other Manual Workers Union (573 members)
The Artisans, Taxi Drivers and Other Manual Labourers Union (544 members)
The Building Industry, Engineering and Other Workers Union (538 members)
The Bus Drivers, Conductors and Other Bus Industry Workers Union (435 members)
The Mauritius Bakers' Union (339 members)
The Central Electricity Board Technical and Clerical Staff Association (305 members)
The Larger employers trade unions are:—
The Mauritius Tobacco Producers' Syndicate (60 members)
The Mauritius Butchery Owners' Association (56 members)
The United Butchers Association (56 members)
The Mauritius Cane Growers' Association (41 members)
The Bread Manufacture Union (36 members)
The Mauritius Sugar Producers Association (21 members)

Labour Disputes and Settlements

Three labour disputes involving stoppages of work were reported during the year.

Following a change in the disciplinary procedure adopted by the management of the Vacoas Transport Co. Ltd., their drivers and conductors went on strike on the 19th February, 1963. They however resumed work on the same day. The drivers and conductors of other companies went on strike too, in sympathy with their fellow workers of the Vacoas Transport Industry. The management of these companies considered that they had vacated their posts but finally agreed to reemploy the strikers, after intervention by the Minister of Labour.

A one-day strike of primary school teachers took place on 15th March, 1963. Subsequently a dispute between the Government and the Federation of Civil Service and Primary Aided School

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Teachers' Unions was referred to a Board of Enquiry under the provisions of the Trade Disputes Ordinance, 1954. The Board consisted of a single member, Mr. Justice Rivalland, M.B.E., Senior Puisne Judge, whose report to Government was laid on the table of the Legislative Council in October, 1963.

The manual workers of the Telecommunications Department who are paid under the Other Charges section of the Estimates, had for some time been asking to be paid under Personal Emoluments and to contribute to the Widows and Orphans Pension Fund. They went on strike with the support of the Government and Other Manual Workers' Union on 7th October, 1963. Negotiations were opened with the Central Administration and on the 11th October the workers resumed work on assurance being given by the Central Administration that the general question of the entry of Permanent Employees to the Permanent and Pensionable Establishment would be considered in the Central Whitley Council.

Workmen's Compensation

Compensation is payable to injured workmen in accordance with the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance (Cap. 220, as amended).

Social Security

All monthly-employed workers aged eighteen years or over engaged in the sugar industry contribute to the Sugar Industry Pension Fund, set up under Ordinance No. 42 of 1955. Other statutory funds are operated under the provisions of the Employers Superannuation Fund Ordinance No. 28 of 1954.

Vocational Training

A day-release course for apprentices in mechanical engineering was held at the Technical Institute during the year. Fourteen apprentices (4 from Government Service and 10 from private employers) attended the course.

A survey carried out by the Ministry of Labour and Social Security in July, 1963 in the automobile and machinery repair industry has shown that some 450 apprentices were under training in this industry during the year.

Certain major establishments, e.g. the Central Electricity Board, Messrs. Taylor Smith & Co., have their own arrangements for the training of apprentices.

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EMIGRATION

Employment vouchers were issued to 305 applicants for employment in the United Kingdom, under the Commonwealth Immigration (United Kingdom) Act, 1962.

Nine applicants for nursing training in the United Kingdom were recommended by the nursing training selection committee, but only four of them have been accepted by hospitals in Great Britain.

Two hundred and twenty three workers left the Colony for other employment overseas.

FACTORIES

The total number of factories registered under the Factories Ordinance 1946, was 402 on 31st December 1963, including 23 sugar factories. This represents a net increase of 7 factories over the previous year.

LEGISLATION

The main body of legislation for which the Ministry is responsible is contained in the following enactments and their related subsidiary legislation:—

The Boilers Ordinance	Cap. 209
The Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Ordinance	Cap. 211
The Employment and Labour Ordinance	Cap 214
The Recruitment of Workers Ordinance	Cap. 218
The Safety of Dockers Ordinance (administered by the Harbour Master)	Cap. 219
The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance	Cap. 220
The Public Assistance Ordinance	Cap. 296
The Apprenticeship Ordinance	No. 13 of 1946
The Factories Ordinance	No. 42 of 1946
The Registration of Associations Ordinance	No. 45 of 1949
The Old Age Pensions Ordinance	No. 77 of 1951
The Employees Superannuation Fund Ordinance ...	No. 28 of 1954
The Trade Union Ordinance	No. 36 of 1954
The Trade Disputes Ordinance	No. 37 of 1954
The Sugar Industry Reserve Funds Ordinance (in so far as it affects the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund)	No. 20 of 1959
The Regulation of Wages and Conditions of Employment Ordinance	No. 71 of 1961
The Family Allowance Ordinance	No. 62 of 1961

The Ministry also has certain responsibilities under the Filiation Ordinance (Cap. 40), the Shops Ordinance (Cap. 409), the Free Emigration Ordinance (Cap. 150) and the Courts Ordinance (Cap. 168), and under sundry items of unrelated subsidiary legislation.

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The following Ordinances relating to Labour matters were passed during the year:—

The Regulation of Wages and conditions of Employment (Amendment) Ordinance	No. 2 of 1963
The Trade Union (Amendment) Ordinance	No. 6 of 1963
The Employment and Training Ordinance	No. 14 of 1963
The Security of Employment (Sugar Industry) Ordinance	No. 28 of 1963
The Termination of Contracts of Service Ordinance	No. 33 of 1963

Government Notices relating to labour matters were published during the year as follows:—

No. 24 of 1963	Order made by the Minister establishing a Wages Council for agricultural workers employed in the Sugar Industry.
No. 25 of 1963	Order made by the Minister establishing a Wages Council for Non-agricultural Workers employed in the Sugar Industry.
No. 39 of 1963	The Wages Regulations (Messengers) Order, 1963.
No. 49 of 1963	Wages Council (Catering Industry) (Amendment) Order, 1963.
No. 52 of 1963	Rules made by the Minister under paragraph 6 of Schedule I to the Regulation of Wages and Conditions of Employment Ordinance, 1961, Wages Council (Non-agricultural Workers employed in the Sugar Industry) Rules 1963.
No. 53 of 1963	Rules made by the Minister under paragraph 6 of Schedule I to the Regulation of Wages and Conditions of Employment Ordinance, 1961. Wages Council (Non agricultural workers employment in the Sugar Industry) Rules 1963.
No. 55 of 1963	Rules made by the Minister under paragraph 6 of Schedule I to the Regulation of Wages and Conditions of Employment Ordinance 1961. Wages Council (Agricultural Workers employed in the Sugar Industry) Rules, 1963.
No. 59 of 1963	Wages Regulation (Agricultural Workers employed in the Sugar Industry) Order 1963.

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No. 60 of 1963	Wages Regulation (Non agricultural Workers employed in the Sugar Industry Order, 1963.
No. 62 of 1963	Wages Council (Distributive Trades) (Amendment) Order, 1963.
No. 71 of 1963	The Labour Commissioner (Transfer of Powers and Duties) Order, 1963.
No. 92 of 1963	The Wages Regulation (Distributive Trades) Order, 1963.
No. 103 of 1963	The Security of Employment (Sugar Industry) (Certificates of Service) Regulations, 1963.
No. 108 of 1963	Termination of Contracts of Service (Sugar Industry) Order, 1963.
No. 110 of 1963	The Wages Regulation (Agricultural Workers employed in the Sugar Industry) (Amendment) Order, 1963.

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Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

Revenue and Expenditure

The following tables give a comparison under the main heads of revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the years ended 30th June, 1939, 1962 and 1963.

Current Revenue

Main Head	*Year ended 30th June*		
	1939	*1962*	*1963*
	Rs	*Rs*	*Rs*
I. Direct Taxes	1,036,451	38,617,916	38,785,736
II. Indirect Taxes	11,411,317	95,012,979	99,327,402
III. Receipts from Public Utilities ...	1,390,767	8,848,200	9,345,453
IV. Receipts from Public Services ...	1,082,113	5,123,139	5,296,090
V. Livestock Feed Factory ...	—	—	—
VI. Rental of Government Property...	229,221	1,405,835	1,552,262
VII. Interest and Royalties	486,474	5,557,439	7,377,594
VIII. Reimbursement by Her Majesty's Government — Overseas Aid Scheme	—	—	1,135,151
TOTAL ...	15,636,343	154,565,508	162,819,688

Capital Revenue

L. Transfer from Recurrent Budget	—	12,000,000	12,000,000
LI. Capital Receipts, Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes	15,858	8,685,214	4,929,801
LII. Sale of Property	329	12,600	12,772
LIII. Loans	—	11,962,505	39,925,097
LIV. Miscellaneous	—	199,384	599,180
LV. Grants	—	5,446,487	7,085,692
LVI. Interest on Investments	—	627,120	74,798
Repayment of Loans and Advances	2,198,308	—	—
TOTAL ...	2,214,495	38,933,310	64,627,340

Current Expenditure

Main Vote	*Year ended 30th June*		
	1939	*1962*	*1963*
	Rs	*Rs*	*Rs*
1—1. Governor	82,659	221,421	251,494
2. Judicial	402,390	1,381,391	1,342,287
3. Legislature	12,889	658,799	637,894
4. Attorney General's Office ...	99,564	272,946	293,986
5. Audit	79,185	389,592	400,518
6. Public Service Commission ...	—	142,995	128,716
7. Chief Secretary's Office ...	88,893	1,026,200	1,159,319
8. Defence	935,903	1,415,465	1,404,428
9. District Administration ...	—	267,587	257,123
Carried forward ...	1,701,483	5,776,396	5,935,765

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Main Vote	Year ended 30th June 1939 Rs	1962 Rs	1963 Rs
Brought forward ...	1,701,483	5,776,396	5,935,765
1—10. Ecclesiastical	211,914	592,331	662,335
11. Fire Services	—	1,023,379	1,109,913
12. Police	970,903	7,484,080	7,868,511
13. Printing Department... ...	107,772	810,371	822,087
14. Rodrigues	—	2,685,380	3,569,672
15. Police Service Commission ...	—	45,689	49,882
2—1. Ministry of Finance	—	6,088,232	7,815,315
Accountant General	197,112	—	—
2. Central Statistical Office ...	—	446,366	383,815
Miscellaneous	1,107,217	—	—
3. Contributions	—	12,000,000	12,000,000
4. Customs and Excise	—	3,105,393	1,881,342
Customs, Harbour Port and Marine	613,206	—	—
5. Income Tax	—	549,056	577,478
6. Public Debt	2,292,014	8,986,101	9,518,605
7. Public Service Pensions ...	1,695,428	9,590,430	10,449,699
8. Registrar General	113,897	307,474	297,455
9. Overseas Service Aid Scheme	—	—	1,166,727
3—1. Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources	—	130,771	133,120
2. Agriculture	542,286	4,446,642	4,809,630
3. Forests	203,331	2,413,812	2,280,653
4—1. Ministry of Works and Internal Communications	—	3,012,993	3,407,732
Public Works and Surveys Establishment ...	340,007	—	—
2. Works Annually Recurrent ...	1,039,379	8,377,450	7,581,010
3. Railways...	765,444	402,776	364,522
4. Road Traffic Licensing Authority	—	206,453	190,648
5—1. Ministry of Industry, Commerce and External Communications	—	438,920	468,048
2. Civil Aviation	—	656,714	665,374
3. Granary	79,421	271,320	270,214
4. Harbour and Quays	—	1,464,253	1,457,936
5. Meteorology	41,543	469,230	560,651
6—1. Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs	—	20,655,161	22,785,860
2. Archives	—	106,423	99,558
Education	1,441,412	—	—
3. Mauritius Institute	17,115	131,351	118,475
7—1. Ministry of Health and Reform Institutions	—	145,648	175,667
2. Health	1,477,202	17,426,996	18,076,539
3. Prisons and Industrial School	178,741	1,518,552	1,542,421
4. Social Welfare	—	597,964	580,510
8—1. Ministry of Labour and Social Security	—	246,877	950,641
Labour	770,307	4,776,390	—
2. Public Assistance	—	18,078,973	26,458,326
Carried forward	15,907,134	145,466,347	151,150,371

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Main Vote	Year ended 30th June 1939 Rs	1962 Rs	1963 Rs
Brought forward ...	15,907,134	145,466,347	151,150,371
9—1. Ministry of Local Government and Co-operative Development	—	151,258	138,444
2. Co-operative Societies	—	238,308	298,345
3. Local Government	—	4,064,930	4,259,650
10—1. Ministry of Housing, Lands and Town and Country Planning	—	576,253	783,690
11—1. Ministry of Information, Posts and Telegraphs and Telecommunications	—	51,340	133,689
2. Central Information Office ...	—	294,109	312,683
3. Mauritius Broadcasting Service and Globe Reuter News Service	—	581,285	548,687
4. Posts and Telegraphs ...	322,521	2,203,073	2,161,092
5. Telecommunications	178,248	2,418,584	2,223,602
TOTAL	16,407,903	156,045,487	167,946,018
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE			
30. Loans	—	17,101,159	25,917,137
31. Other Capital Expenditure ...	—	34,946,494	38,191,939
32. Reserve	—	—	—
33. Redemption of Loans	—	66	74
TOTAL EXPENDITURE ...	—	52,047,719	64,109,150

PUBLIC DEBT

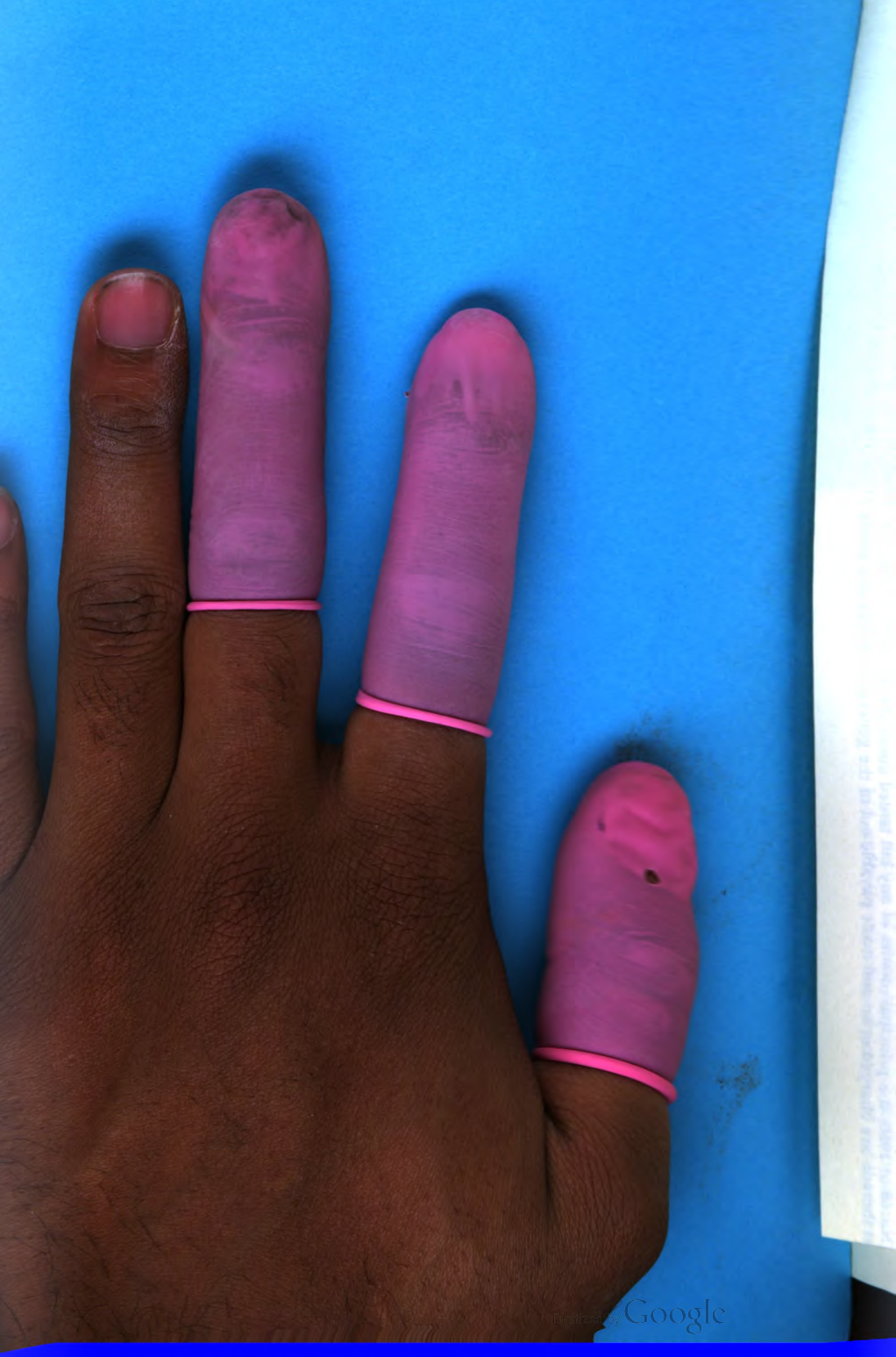
The Public Debt of the Colony on the 30th June, 1963, was Rs 184,403,680. Against this liability there was an accumulated Sinking Fund of Rs 21,473,829.

Local loan issues accounted for Rs 91,684,200 of the Public Debt as detailed below:—

	Rs
Agricultural Loan (No. 1) 1937	1,480,000
Agricultural Loan (No. 2) 1937	1,600,000
Mauritius Development and Welfare Loan 1971–81 ...	3,072,000
Development (General Purposes) Loan 1964–74	14,448,000
Development (General Purposes) Loan 1973–83	15,000,000
Mauritius Tap Loan	55,584,200
Cyclone and Drought Insurance Board—Interest Free Loan	500,000
TOTAL ...	91,684,200

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THE MAIN HEADS OF THEIR

Customs :—

Import Duties ..

Export Duties ..

Excise duty on Rum (Spirit alcoholic beverages

Tobacco Excise ... ..

Licence Duties ... ..

Income Tax, (Companies Corporate) ... ..

Income Tax (Others) ..

Tax on Sweepstakes and

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OF TAXATION AND YIELDS

		Rs
.	... ...	45,830,018
.	... ...	13,908,046
s, liquors and)	... ...	14,890,942
.	... ...	8,933,756
.	... ...	3,616,948
and Bodies .	... ...	15,641,183
.	... ...	19,891,745
Lotteries	...	1,853,699
TOTAL	...	124,566,337

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The National Income and Depreciation Figure for 1962 was Calculated by the Central Statistical Office to be Approximately Rs 724,000,000

Gross National Product Industrial Origin	*Rs (millions)*	%
1. Agriculture, forestry, hunting and fishing ...	192	26·5
2. Mining and Quarrying..	1	0·12
3. Manufacture	122	16·9
4. Construction	51	7·0
5. Electricity, water and sanitary services ...	17	2·4
6. Transportation, Storage and Communication ...	97	13·4
7. Wholesale and Retail Trade	75	10.4
8. Banking, Insurance and Real Estate	14	1·9
9. Ownership of dwellings	53	7·3
10. Public Administration and Defence	30	4·1
11. Services	77	10·7
Gross Domestic Product (at factor cost)	729	100·7
Plus factor income from rest of the world ...	5	0·7
Gross National Product (at Factor Cost)	724	100·0

National Income and Depreciation	*Rs (millions)*	%
1. Compensation of employees	413	57·0
2. Income from farms, professions and other unincorporated enterprises received by households	101	14·0
3. Income from property received by households and private non-profit institutions	105	14·5
4. Saving of corporations	84	11·6
5. Direct taxes on corporations	17	2·4
6. General Government income from property and entrepreneurship ...	14	1·9
7. *Less* Interest on public debt	− 7	− 1·0
8. *Less* Interest on consumers' debt	− 3	− 0·4
National Income and Depreciation	724	100·0

Gross National Expenditure Composition	*Rs (millions)*	%
1. Private consumption expenditure on goods and services	613	84·7
2. General Government consumption expenditure on goods and services	110	15·2
3. Gross domestic fixed capital formation of private enterprises ...	84	11·6
4. Gross domestic fixed capital formation of Government and public enterprises	57	7·9
5. Net exports of goods and services	−33	−4·6
6. Net factor income payments from rest of the world	−5	−0·7
7. Gross National Expenditure at Market Prices	826	114·1
8. *Less* Indirect Taxes ...	−103	−14·2
9. *Plus* Subsidies	+ 1	+ 0·1
Gross National Expenditure at Factor Cost	724	100·0

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COMPARATIVE FIGURES OF GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT 1958-62

Year	Gross National Product at factor cost Rs million	Increase or decrease on 1958 per cent	De facto Population 31st Dec. in each year (thousand)	Gross National product per head Rs
1958 ...	634	—	620	1,023
1959 ...	681	+ 7.4	637	1,069
1960 ...	542	−14.5	655	827
1961 ...	707	+11.5	673	1,051
1962 ...	724	+14.2	692	1,046

CUSTOMS TARIFF

The Customs Tariff is based on the S.I.T.C. Following a recommendation of the Meade's report provision has been made therein for affording help and encouragement to local secondary industries. Important rebates are afforded on raw materials imported by registered industries and duties at protective rates are levied on certain manufactured imported articles.

Provision exists in the tariff for the imposition of preferential rates of duty on imports from the U.K. and certain other scheduled territories subject to the production of supporting evidence of value and origin in the form of a prescribed combined certificate.

Export duties are levied on sugar and molasses, and in addition there are small duties imposed on goods exported from bond, goods in transit and goods reshipped after being landed from distressed vessels.

PACKAGE TAX

A package tax at variable low rates is levied under the Package Tax Ordinance No. 32 of 1951 on all goods imported and landed in the colony.

EXCISE DUTIES

Excise duties are leviable on Colonial spirits (rum), beer, country liquor (Mauritius Fruit Wine), tobacco, matches, spirits used in the manufacture of denatured spirits (except for power purposes), vinegar, tinctures and drugs and perfumed spirits. The consumption of rum during the year showed an increase over the figures of the previous year. On the other hand, the revenue collected in respect of country liquor has fallen down due no doubt to the opening of a brewery in August.

STAMP DUTIES

Stamp duties are of three kinds:

Schedule " A " to the stamps Ordinance (Cap. 160, as subsequently amended), specifies the instruments or writings which are

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subject to a duty in proportion to the size of paper used. The tariff from 30 cents to Rs 1.80.

Schedule " B " specifies the instruments or writings which are subject to a fixed stamp duty. The amounts vary from 10 cents to Rs 18.

Schedule " C " specifies the instruments or writings which are subject to an *ad valorem* duty. These include Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes, Policies of Insurance, Debentures. The duties are mainly on a sliding scale.

The Stamp Duties collected in respect of impressed paper during the financial year 1962-63 amounted to Rs 973,896.

Income Tax

The Income Tax is imposed by the provisions of the Income Tax Ordinance, 1950, as subsequently amended.

Various deductions, including capital allowances, are provided by the Ordinance and in the case of individuals, the chargeable income is arrived at after deducting personal reliefs and allowances.

The following schedule shows the rates of tax payable by individuals:

	Chargeable Income		*Rate of Tax*
	Rs		%
For every rupee of the first	5,000	...	10
For every rupee of the next	5,000	...	15
do. do.	5,000	...	20
do. do.	5,000	...	30
do. do.	5,000	...	40
do. do.	10,000	...	50
do. do.	15,000	...	60
Remainder of the chargeable income		...	70

The rate of tax applicable to companies is 40 per cent of the amount of chargeable income.

Collection in the year 1962-63 amounted to Rs 35,607,408 compared with Rs 36,031,234 in 1961-62.

Death Duty

Duty is payable on the value of the property accruing to each beneficiary at a rate dependent upon the degree of relationship to the deceased and the net value of such property, without aggregation of the whole estate.

The duty collected during 1963 amounted to Rs 2,021,211.90 compared with Rs 1,092,416.18 in 1962.

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Local Authorities Finances

The undermentioned table gives comparative figures of revenue and expenditure of the four urban local authorities for the last financial year:—

Local Authority	*Financial Year*	*Revenue Rs*	*Expenditure Rs*
Municipality of Port Louis (excluding Housing Scheme)	1962–63	5,786,538 71	5,413,253 61
Town Council of Beau Bassin—Rose Hill (excluding Housing Scheme) ...	1962–63	1,310,236 40	1,255,892 99
Town Council of Quatre Bornes (excluding Housing Scheme) ...	1962–63	1,124,333 90	1,088,486 97
Town Council of Curepipe (excluding Housing Scheme)	1962–63	1,689,140 59	1,697,066 66

District and Village Councils

The four District Councils established under Ordinance No. 76 of 1951 receive subsidies and grants from the Government which are partly allocated to the Village Councils, according to estimates approved by the District Councils. In addition to any taxation which may be imposed by the Village Councils, the District Councils have the right to levy taxes which do not apply to any particular village, such as advertisement and placard tax and entertainment tax. The total estimates of expenditure for the existing 98 Village Councils amounted to approximately Rs 480,000 and the total revenue including subsidies for scavenging roads and cemeteries, to Rs 786,000. Revenue from entertainment tax totalled Rs 109,000.

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Chapter 4: Currency and Banking

Currency

The local unit of currency is the Mauritius Rupee, which is sub-divided into 100 cents. The rupee is equivalent to 1s. 6d. sterling.

The notes in circulation are of denominations of Rs 25, Rs 10 and Rs 5. There is in addition a Rs 1,000 note which is legal tender only between the local banks and the Government.

The coins in circulation are the following:

Cupro-Nickel: One Rupee, Half-Rupee, Quarter-Rupee and Ten Cents.

Bronze: 5 Cents, 2 Cents and 1 Cent.

The value of currency in circulation on the 30th June for the last three financial years is given hereunder:—

	1961	*1962*	*1963*
	Rs	*Rs*	*Rs*
Notes	68,245,000	68,955,000	71,860,000
Coins	4,498,378	4,288,878	4,623,878
Total	72,743,378	73,243,878	76,483,878

Local Banks

Four trading banks operate in Mauritius: The Mauritius Commercial Bank Ltd., The Mercantile Bank Ltd. Barclays Bank D.C.O. and the Bank of Baroda Ltd.

Savings bank facilities are provided by the Post Office Savings Bank, The Mauritius Agricultural Bank, The Mauritius Commercial Bank Ltd., Barclays Bank D.C.O., The Mercantile Bank Ltd. and The Bank of Baroda Ltd.

Long-term loans for agricultural and housing purposes are provided by the Mauritius Agricultural Bank, while Barclays Overseas Development Corporation Limited undertakes medium-term finance on a commercial basis. There is, however, a lack of financial institutions specialising in long-term loans to individual borrowers for such purposes as housing, although loans against mortgages are obtainable from private sources. The Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank Ltd. provides finance on a seasonal basis for the cultivation requirements of the co-operative credit move-

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ment. The Government also provides assistance to local industry in the form of medium-term loans.

The Mauritius Commercial Bank was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1838 with a capital of Rs 2,000,000 which was increased to Rs 3,000,000 in 1948, to Rs 4,000,000 in 1958 and to Rs 5,000,000 in 1960 and to Rs 6.000,000 in 1963. The Bank was registered as a limited liability company in August, 1955. The Bank's head office is in Port Louis with branches at Curepipe, Rose Hill, Mahebourg; Quatre Bornes, Centre de Flacq, Triolet, Goodlands, Vacoas and Port Louis , Desforges Street. Its London Agents are Lloyds Bank Limited. It has correspondents all over the world and is able to offer a complete banking service. The reserves at the 31st December, 1963 stood at Rs 6,901,509.

The Mercantile Bank Limited, formerly the Mercantile Bank of India Limited, and now a Member of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Group, took over the business of the Bank of Mauritius Limited on the 31st May, 1916. The Paid-up Capital of the Bank is £2,940,000. Reserve funds and unappropriated profits amount to £2,449,958. Through its Head Office in London and its branches throughout India, Pakistan, Ceylon, Thailand, Malaya and the Far East and correspondents throughout the rest of the world, the Mercantile Bank Limited offers comprehensive banking facilities to the people of Mauritius and is the only Bank in the Colony offering Safe Deposit facilities.

Barclays Bank D.C.O. has its Head Office in London and over 1,357 branches in Africa, the Mediterranean area, the Carribean area, England, New York and Hamburg, with correspondents in all other important centres. The paid-up capital of the Bank was £17,000,000 as at 30th September, 1963, and the Reserve Fund was £15,750,000. The Bank, which is affiliated with Barclays Bank Limited, was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1836 as the Colonial Bank and re-incorporated by Act of Parliament in 1925; the name was then changed to Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), which amalgamated with the Anglo-Egyptian Bank Limited and the National Bank of South Africa Limited. The Port Louis, Mauritius, branch was established by the last-named in December, 1919, and was taken over by Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) following the amalgamation. The name of the Bank was changed to Barclays Bank D.C.O. in 1954. There are offices of the Bank at Sir William Newton Street, Port Louis, Dumat Street and Desforges

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Street, Port Louis, Curepipe, Rose Hill, Vacoas, Centre de Flacq, Rivière des Anguilles and Rose Belle and Plaisance Airport. The Bank acts as Agent for Barclays Overseas Development Corporation Limited, which was formed to assist in the economic development of territories in which the Bank operates and which had a paid-up capital of £6,000,000 on the 30th September, 1963.

The Bank of Baroda Ltd. Port Louis

The Bank of Baroda Limited Established in 1908.
Registered office Mandvi Barods (India)

The Bank of Baroda Limited was incorporated in the year 1908 in Baroda (India) under the patronage of His Highness the Maharaja Sayajirao Geakwear of Baroda. The Bank had good initial success and with the able directorate and Management the Bank is extending its activities in India and abroad.

The capital structure of the Bank as at 31st December, 1963 is as under:—

Authorised capital Rs 8/—crores (Eighty millions) Issued and Subscribed capital Rs 4/—crores (Forty millions) Paid up capital Rs 2/—crores (Twenty millions) Reserves exceed rupees two crores (twenty millions) Total working funds exceed Rupees 1,700 crores (Rupees seventeen thousand millions).

In pursuance of the policy of extending activities the Bank opened 19 new branches in the year 1963. It has 205 branches with 190 in India and 15 abroad. It has branches in all important centres in India and also operates in United Kingdom, Uganda, Kenya, Tanganyika, East Pakistan, Fiji and Mauritius.

The Bank has correspondents in all the important places in the world and is able to provide all types of Banking facilities to the people of Mauritius.

The Bank has commenced functioning at Port Louis, Mauritius since the 19th October 1962 and in co-operation with the other banks hopes to contribute to the economic and industrial development of Mauritius.

Post Office Savings Bank

The Post Office Savings Bank is operated by the Posts and Telegraphs Department. At the 30th June, 1963, the Bank had 81,217 active accounts and 4,835 dormant accounts with a

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balance due to depositors of Rs 30,189,113. Savings Bank business is transacted at 31 Post Offices. During 1963 transactions amounted in number and value to 54,506 deposits, totalling Rs 13,810,411 and 54,423 withdrawals, totalling Rs 14,366,405. Accounts are regarded as dormant if no transaction takes place for a period of twenty years.

The Mauritius Agricultural Bank

The Mauritius Agricultural Bank was established by Ordinance (214a) No. 1 of 1936 as a " body corporate having perpetual succession and a common seal . . . for the purpose of making long-term loans for agricultural needs ". It started its activities in 1937 with a capital of Rs 10,000,000 which was raised by loans, locally and overseas, by Government.

The first change in the constitution of the Bank occurred in 1940 when the minimum for loans (which had been Rs 5,000) was abolished and the Bank was authorised to draw Bills on the Treasury to finance loans for amounts under Rs 5,000.

The Mauritius Economic Commission (1948) recommended that the Bank's capital be increased and the scope of its activities extended to meet the needs of industrial as well as agricultural enterprises. Legislation was passed to this effect and to authorise the Bank to make long-term loans for housing (Ordinance No. 68 of 1950).

In 1949 the Bank was authorised to raise Rs 3,000,000 from the public by the sale of short-term bills, By Ordinance No. 68 of of 1950 it was further empowered:

(a) to raise funds from the public by the issue of long-term debentures, by the issue of subscription debentures payable monthly and quarterly, and by accepting fixed deposits for 12–36 months and saving deposits;

(b) to arrange long-term loans and bank overdrafts.

One of the objects of authorising the Bank to raise funds from the public was to encourage saving in the Colony and it was hoped that the wide choice of investments would prove attractive. At the 31st December, 1963, there were:—

3,272 Savings Accounts for Rs 2,181,366.05
302 Fixed Deposit Accounts for Rs 1,462,391.18
145 Accounts for Subscription Debentures for Rs 92,581.36.

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At the 31st December, 1963, the Bank had paid out Rs 50,185,804 in loans as follows:—

	Rs
For agriculture	48,884,814
For industry	1,300,990
TOTAL ...	50,185,804

The Bank has been entrusted with the management of the loans granted under the Hurricane Loan Ordinance (1945), the Rehabilitation of Factories and Rolling Stock Ordinance (1948), and the Aloe Fibre Industry (Development) Ordinance (1952). The total amount due by borrowers at the 31st December, 1963, was Rs 30,547,261 of which Rs 25,230,164 consisted of Agricultural Bank loans proper. Rs 3,969,512 due by borrowers under the Hurricane Loan Ordinance, Rs 1,337,060 due by borrowers under the Rehabilitation of Factories and Rolling Stock Ordinance, and Rs 10,525 due by borrowers under the Aloe Fibre Industry (Development) Ordinance. The demand for loans since 1950 has been far in excess of the resources of the Bank.

Housing loans no longer form part of the Bank's activities, the Mauritius Housing Corporation having been formed on 1st January, 1963 to take over all outstanding loans for Housing together with matching liabilities.

The following is a Summary of the Bank's Balance Sheet as at the 31st December ,1963.

Figures as at 31st December, 1963

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
	Rs		*Rs*
Debentures and Sub-Debentures	17,092,581	Loans	25,230,164
Deposits	4,356,928	Cash	951,489
Short-term Bills	1,030,500	Investments	2,010,467
Internal Accounts and other expenses ...	2,867,986	Other Assets	2,973,712
Reserve and Profit and Loss Account	5,817,837		
	31,165,832		31,165,832

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BANKING STATISTICS

NUMBER OF REPORTING BANKS: 4

Figures as at 31st December, 1963

All figures are in rupees (000 omitted)

LIABILITIES	Rs
1. Notes in circulation ...	—
2. Deposits :—	
(1) Demand	174,717
(2) Time	10,722
(3) Savings	20,641
3. Balances due to :—	
(1) Other banks in the Colony	4,290
(2) Banks abroad	5,220
4. Other Liabilities	66,276
TOTAL LIABILITIES ...	281,866

ASSETS	Rs
1. Cash	8,912
2. Balances due by other banks in the Colony	3,331
3. Balances due from banks abroad	113,227
4. Loans and advances :—	
(1) Primary production (including processing of primary products) ...	28,431
(2) Other industries (including Commerce, Transport and Distribution)	41,815
(3) Other advances ...	19,840
5. Investments:—	
(a) Local	6,428
(b) Other	2,000
6. Other Assets :—	
(1) Bills discounted ...	2,665
(2) Bills receivable ...	7,865
(3) Other	47,352
TOTAL ASSETS ...	281,866

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Banks Exchange Rates

The buying and selling rates for telegraphic transfers were at the end of 1963, roughly as under:—

	Buying	*Selling*
British Sterling		
Under £5,000	Rs 13.25 per £1	Rs 13.43 per £1
£5,000 and over	Rs 13.26⅜ ,,	Rs 13.40 ,,
Canadian Dollars	Rs 4.37½ per $1	Rs 4.47½ per $1
U.S.A. Dollars	Rs 4.72½ per $1	Rs 4.82 per $1
South African Rands		
Under Rd 10,000	Rs 6.60 per 1Rd	Rs 6.73 per Rd1
Rd 10,000 and over	Rs 6.60 ,,	Rs 6.71 ,,
Australian Pounds		
Under £5,000	Rs 10.55 per £1	Rs 10.85 per £1
£5,000 and over	Rs 10.55 ,,	Rs 10.80 ,,
French Francs		
France	Rs 0.94 per NF 1	Rs 0.99 per NF 1
C.F.A.	Rs 1.88 per 100 francs	Rs 1.98 per 100 francs
Other Currencies		
India and Pakistan	At par	1 % premium
East Africa	Rs 66 per 100 shs	Rs 67.15 per 100 shs.

The control of foreign exchange was maintained in 1963 under the Mauritius Exchange Control Ordinance, 1951, which was enacted on the lines of the United Kingdom Exchange Control Act, 1947, and thus ensures similarity of practice in exchange control matters in the Scheduled Territories.

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Chapter 5 : Commerce and Industry

The commerce of the Colony depends almost entirely on the sugar crop which in 1963 yielded 685,523* metric tons as compared with 532,817 metric tons in 1962 and 553,259 metric tons in 1961. High degree alcohol, a by-product of sugar, is produced mainly for local consumption and the quantity exported in 1963 was negligible. The exportation of molasses, another by-product of sugar, was 109,770 metric tons against 110,253 metric tons in 1962 and 64, 633 metric tons in 1961. Exports of tea reached 987 metric tons as compared with 721 metric tons in 1962 and 792 metric tons in 1961. A small part of the Colony's demand for foodstuffs is met by local production namely meat, sugar, salt, fruits and vegetables, fish (fresh and dried) and tea*. Local industries produce beer, cigarettes, matches, aloe-fibre bags for sugar, rum, aerated minerals, country liquor, leather, leather and rubber footwear, garments and clothing, lime, confectionery, carbon dioxide, metal doors and windows, wooden and steel furniture, pasteurized milk, spring mattresses, fibre glass manufactures, boot and furniture polish, louvre windows, bituminous paint, nails and car batteries. The bulk of the needs of the Colony are met by importation from other countries.

Imports of rice, the staple food of the Colony, reached 69,690 metric tons as compared with 68,183 metric tons in 1962 and 67,215 metric tons in 1961. Wheaten flour was imported mainly from Australia and France, beef on the hoof from Madagascar and considerable quantities of foodstuff from the United Kingdom, the Republic of South Africa and Australia.

The United Kingdom continues to be the principal source of supply for manufactured goods such as textiles, machinery, motor vehicles, hardware and electrical goods. Large quantities of cotton piece goods are imported from India and large supplies of general merchandise from Hong Kong and Japan. Manufactured fertilizers are imported mainly from the United Kingdom, the Republic of South Africa, Western Germany, France and Israel.

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* Provisional

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DIRECTION OF EXPORT TRADE

	1961	1962	1963
Preferential Tariff Countries	Rs	Rs	Rs
United Kingdom	235,874,497	251,017,937	290,696,264
Australia	397,859	1,777,563	332,130
Burma	1,000,000	—	—
Canada	36,384,601	22,306,783	66,709,709
Hong Kong	91,347	291,854	67,458
India	14,243	16,985	18,841
Kenya	246,001	568,294	237,309
Malaya	862	60,000	1,460
New Zealand	245,023	641,114	432,920
Republic of South Africa ...	517,058	2,114,353	1,248,739
Seychelles	368,241	224,827	48,433
Singapore	29,010	19,429	107,037
Southern Rhodesia	3,144,691	45,890	56,184
Other Preferential Tariff Countries	117,726	70,878	293,364
TOTAL ...	278,431,159	279,155,907	360,249,848
General Tariff Countries			
France	152,917	146,629	426,768
German Federal Republic ...	192,529	130,042	99,749
Holland	106,466	2,008,502	108,529
Japan	2,320,512	3,035,603	625,155
Italy	34,210	451,041	8,418,668
Madagascar	797,323	787,150	1,539,818
Portuguese East Africa	11,719	12,210	9,060
Reunion	1,495,061	1,245,090	1,790,995
United States of America ...	3,536,767	9,223,350	47,820,348
Other General Tariff Countries ..	129,447	3,212,585	498,171
TOTAL ...	8,776,951	20,252,202	61,337,261
Sugar Quota Certificates ...	6,995,196	6,457,327	6,195,510
GRAND TOTAL OF EXPORTS ...	294,203,306	305,865,436	427,782,619

DIRECTION OF IMPORT TRADE

	1961	1962	1963
Preferential Tariff Countries	Rs	Rs	Rs
United Kingdom	104,293,118	89,848,640	93,847,141
Aden	205,161	95,700	83,158
Australia	22,438,451	22,126,360	19,249,036
Bahrein	340,529	164,544	25,482
British West Indies	27,408	163,103	181,176
Burma	28,947,559	34,520,091	34,721,607
Canada	512,838	394,404	1,017,958
Ceylon	253,174	299,042	167,922
Cyprus	50,570	33,443	55,641
Eire	1,162,244	1,302,828	1,175,934
Carried over	158,231,052	148,948,155	150,525,055

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DIRECTION OF IMPORTS TRADE—*continued*

	1961	*1962*	*1963*
	Rs	*Rs*	*Rs*
Brought forward ...	158,231,052	148,948,155	150,525,055
Hong Kong	9,734,452	11,710,505	11,731,732
India	13,750,925	13,995,555	13,000,100
Kenya	7,687,858	6,915,172	5,764,101
Malaya	2,433,288	2,060,708	2,008,137
New Zealand	964,159	339,372	806,792
Pakistan	1,080,862	1,530,947	883,632
Republic of South Africa ...	27,116,433	34,633,887	30,749,499
Singapore	3,826,796	3,661,980	3,193,375
Southern Rhodesia	567,092	494,531	1,309,530
Seychelles	825,663	673,888	515,622
Other Preferential Tariff Countries	572,139	849,833	810,408
TOTAL	226,790,719	225,814,533	221,298,049
General Tariff Countries			
Belgium	5,053,567	4,252,370	5,110,712
Czechoslovakia	750,044	755,443	858,127
Denmark	642,136	1,276,590	3,142,160
Ethiopia	561,224	643,663	954,684
France	12,887,972	15,334,032	17,182,858
German Federal Republic ...	15,025,259	13,142,503	12,967,559
Germany (Eastern)	245,131	99,375	279,943
Holland	5,703,215	6,648,070	7,822,986
Hungary	78,779	76,137	165,176
Iran	8,220,629	12,441,793	10 335,738
Italy (including Sicily)	1,540,570	2,553,975	12,894,660
Japan	9,694,273	10,061,691	9,735,733
Luxembourg	807,567	774,601	511,831
Madagascar	3,193,102	4,056,036	3,889,327
Morocco	346,283	845,156	823,753
Netherlands West Indies ...	327,791	58,590	81,569
Norway	1,241,439	676,072	480,217
Poland	29,595	36,586	17,677
Portugal	237,499	299 356	402,315
Portuguese East Africa	3,525,944	1,533,282	260,480
Saudi Arabia	145	—	705
Siam	10,026,880	4,666,462	4,325,731
Spain	320,128	243,258	217,518
Sudan	646,811	7,436	544,624
Sweden	2,078,370	1,158,747	2,302,120
Switzerland	1,378,375	1,866,073	1,877,444
United States of America ...	7,552,545	7,782,577	8,967,814
Russia	23,332	28,212	11,097
Yougoslavia	1,641	1,723	35,950
Other General Tariff Countries ...	4,455,221	5,119,572	5,109,438
TOTAL ...	96,595,467	96,439,381	111,310,006
BAGGAGE ...	574,321	473,204	508,237
GRAND TOTAL OF IMPORTS ...	323,960,507	322,727,118	333,116,292

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TRADE FIGURES—I IMPORTS

Principal Imports	1961 Total=Rs 323,960,507 Quantity	1961 C.I.F. Value Rs	1962 Total=Rs 322,727,118 Quantity	1962 C.I.F. Value Rs	1963 Total=Rs 333,110,292 Quantity	1963 C.I.F. Value Rs	Main Countries of Supply
Rice	67,215 M. Tons	36,814,172	68,183 M. Tons	37,334,921	69,690 M. Tons	38,296,917	Burma, Siam and Madagascar
Wheaten flour	22,654 ,,	9,362,384	26,592 ,,	11,604,298	28,169 ,,	12,082,000	Australia, France and German Federal Republic.
Other grain and grain products	12,046 ,,	6,786,833	12,209 ,,	6,528,281	12,955 ,,	6,529,046	United Kingdom, Australia, Republic of South Africa, India, Madagascar, Ethiopia, Burma, and Kenya.
Cattle and meat	—	6,763,458	—	7,522,465	—	7,178,695	Australia, Madagascar, Kenya, S. Rhodesia and Danmark.
Edible oils and fats	7,693 ,,	12,310,772	7,986 ,,	12,507,811	9,520 ,,	14,238,591	United Kingdom, Holland Israel. German Federal Republic, Rep. of S. Africa, Danmark India and Singapore.
Beverages	—	6,935,704	—	6,725,799	—	5,954,864	United Kingdom, Rep. of S. Africa. Algeria, France, Spain, Italy, Eire, Singapore and Holland.
Coal	5,848 ,,	380,407	3,063 ,,	270,254	2,118	183,628	Republic of S. Africa.
Petroleum products	—	10,947,445	—	15,050,834	—	13,837,977	Iran, United Kingdom Rep. of South Africa, and U.S. America.
Wood and wood manufactures	—	5,855,814	—	4,346,607	—	4,057,056	Malaya, Singapore, Siam, Burma and Japan.
Gunny bags	165,930 Units	225,905	484,524 Units	565,048	364 Units	423	India and Pakistan.
Cotton piece goods	8,981,707 Sq. ms.,	12,218,676	10,015,814 sq. ms.	12,655,507	9,637,775 sq. ms.	12,062,910	United Kingdom, Hong Kong, India, and Japan.
Silk piece goods	2,557,131 ,,	4,412,262	2,314,117 ,,	4,451,671	1,822,886 ,,	5,471,570	United Kingdom, India and Japan,
Woollen piece goods	168,251 ,,	1,988,599	88,722 ,,	1,052,310	84,028 ,,	902,311	United Kingdom,
Vehicles :—							
(a) (i) Motor cars	1,004 Units	6,250,869	914 Units	5,636,299	1,046 Units	6,609,149	United Kingdom, Italy, France, and German Federal Republic.
(ii) Other	—	8,489,446	—	8,896,791	—	8,750,679	United Kingdom.
(b) Railway and tramway locomotives and accessories	—	274,589	—	63,111	—	85,312	United Kingdom.
(c) Ships, aircraft and accessories	—	1,037,715	—	569,540	—	461,786	United Kingdom and Norway.
Cement	91,815 M. Tons	9,080,799	91,160 M. Tons	8,788,366	80,406 M. Tons	7,411,221	United Kingdom, Kenya, Japan, Belgium, and Republic of South Africa.
Machinery other than electric	— ,,	20,226,751	— ,,	18,227,569	— ,,	17,846,292	United Kingdom, U.S. America, Italy, German Federal Republic, and France.
Electrical goods	—	17,460,843	—	12,006,666	—	21,960,620	United Kingdom, Italy U.S. America, Holland, Japan and Sweden,
Iron and steel goods	21,465 ,,	23,233,073	20,678 ,,	22,764,784	18,058 M. Tons	19,433,193	United Kingdom, Belgium, German Federal Republic, France, Japan, Luxembourg, Republic of South Africa, Hong Kong and Australia.
Manures and Fertilizers	61,245 ,,	14,019,480	70,357 ,,	15,681,468	75,766 ,,	17,429,889	United Kingdom, German Federal Republic France, Rep. of S. Africa, Seychelles and Madagascar and Israel.
Paper and paper manufactures	3,023 ,,	5,192,150	2,558 ,,	4,693,016	2,737 ,,	5,352,107	United Kingdom Norway Sweden, Finland, Rep. of S. Africa and Singapore.

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II.—Exports

		1961	1962	1963
		Rs	Rs	Rs
(a) Domestic Exports ...	...	276,737,097	290,656,050	414,750,498
(b) Sugar Quota Certificates	...	6,995,196	6,457,327	6,195,510
(c) Re-Exports ...	...	10,471,013	8,752,059	6,836,611
TOTAL	...	294,203,306	305,865,436	427,782,619

Principal Exports	1961 Quantity	1961 F.O.B. Value	1962 Quantity	1962 F.O.B. Value	1963 Quantity	1963 F.O.B. Value	Main Countries of Destination
		Rs		Rs		Rs	
Sugar ...	505,687 M.Tons	265,195,319*	515,144 M.Tons	275,584,568*	574,300 M. Tons	394,016,617*	United Kingdom, Canada, United States of America and Italy
Molasses ...	64,633 ,,	4,987,507	110,253 ,,	9,110,777	109,770 ,,	13,458,779	United Kingdom, New Zealand, Holland and United States of America
Rum ...	148 Hectols	14,180	193 Hectols	17,523	326 Hectols	28,378	Hong Kong, and Seychelles
Aloe Fibre ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tea ...	792 M.Tons	4,904,063	721 M.Tons	3,889,743	987 M. Tons	5,480,678	United Kingdom.

*Excluding Value of Sugar Quota Certificates.

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Chapter 6 : Production

Land Utilization and Water Conservation

Mauritius covers an area of 460,800 acres of which about 230,000 acres are under intensive cultivation. Other than the crops from this area, the Island produces little else with which to meet the requirements of a population numbering 791,400 with a density of about 974 to the square mile. The cultivated area consists mainly of sugarcane (214,000 acres); it does not include either economic forestry, or other tree plantations (19,000 acres). Forests and forest plantations, woodlands, mountain, river and natural reserves and scrub total about 200,000 acres. Built up areas, roads, water bodies and open spaces cover 22,000 acres.

The central elevated part of the Island, above the 100″ isohyet, is mostly covered with forest and scrub to protect and regulate the water resources. In this area, tea is the only crop cultivated. No laws specifically protecting this natural watershed exist save those giving protection to mountain and river reserves.

The main upland water catchment area is mostly Crown property and utilized for the production of forest produce, fuel and fodder, with a limited acreage under tea and other crops. Water resources are mainly dependent on the incidence of nearby cyclonic disturbances bringing rain, most of which falls in the hot season or in the heavy downpours accompanying cyclonic disturbances. Several reservoirs have been constructed in order to conserve this water for both domestic and irrigation purposes as well as for the production of electrical energy.

Land Ownership

In the early days of French colonization, land was conceded to settlers throughout the Island. Later, land ownership was governed by the French Civil Code or 'Code Napoleon' which is still in force. This provides for equal division of property among the heirs which often leads to excessive fragmentation of land. The demand for land is accentuated by the rapid growth of population, leading to inflation of land values. Grouping of estates into companies has checked fragmentation for the bulk of the cultivated land.

Land Tenure

The Island was uninhabited when first colonized. Its original permanent settlers were the French who, through the grant of con-

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cessions, became the original freehold owners of all the land except Crown Lands. At present, apart from Crown Lands, including Crown forests and the " Pas Géométriques " which total 83,000 acres, the land is owned in large or small lots by all sections of the community. Roughly 70 per cent is owned by companies and private estates, the remainder being the property of the Indo-Mauritian section of the population. In addition to freehold tenure, land is also held leasehold and on share-cropping agreements.

Leasehold tenure is practised to a limited extent on privately owned lands and on Crown Lands. In the case of Crown Lands, leasing is generally by auction to the highest bidder, but it may be also by contract; leases vary up to 60 years with security of tenure to satisfactory tenants. Various types of share-cropping in the form of " metayage " exist.

Renting System

Rentals are either cash, crop-sharing or " Taungya ". Cash rentals are payable monthly, quarterly or annually; in crop-sharing the proportion of the crop handed over as rental varies according to circumstances and the nature of the crop; under the " Taungya " system, which is adopted particularly in tree plantations, the tenant is permitted to grow vegetables or annual crops between the young trees provided he keeps the trees clear of weeds and supplies any gaps in the tree plantation. This is a temporary system, as cultivation is discontinued as soon as the trees are developed.

Land and Water Development Programmes

These include provision for:

(a) increased reservoir construction both for domestic and irrigation purposes, the latter leading to increased cultivation of land;

(b) increased generation of electrical power.

Land Settlement

There has been no extension of existing settlements which number six and cover a total area of some 1,300 acres. All holdings were occupied. In some settlements, the cropping policy has had to be revised and tenants allowed to plant the whole of their holdings under sugarcane. Where foodcrops only are being planted, rent has been reduced from 4 per cent to 2 per cent of the capital value of the land.

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AGRICULTURE

Department of Agriculture

At the 31st December, 1963, the permanent and pensionable staff of the Department numbered 328 as follows:—

Division	*In post*	*Vacancies*
Administrative Division	50	8
Agricultural Division	48	10
Tea Division	10	2
Plant Pathology Division	9	1
Entomological Division	5	2
Agricultural Chemistry Division...	7	—
Engineering Division	5	1
Central Board Division	21	8
Agricultural College Division	14	1
Rodrigues Division	19	2
Fisheries Division	60	2
Division of Veterinary Services	36	7
TOTAL	284	44

The general policy of the Department of Agriculture is to promote the most efficient use of available lands suitable for cultivation and to foster the most efficient production of livestock and livestock products. The training of technical staff for the Department of Agriculture, the Mauritius Sugar Industry Research Institute, the Sugar Industry and the other agricultural interests of the Island is done, in the first instance, at the College of Agriculture which provides a three-year course in agriculture and sugar technology. A programme of study leave for officers of the Department of Agriculture enables officers to be trained overseas to meet requirements for specialist and senior professional staff.

The agricultural extension service makes readily available to the farmer assistance and advice, and translates into general agricultural practice the information obtained from experimental stations. Experimental stations have been developed in each of the major climatic zones of the Island for the study of crops and livestock suited to these zones.

The sugar industry is the main source of wealth and employment and Government's policy is to encourage development of that industry to the limits imposed by oversea markets. The industry has its own research institute which undertakes investigations in both the field and factory.

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The Department of Agriculture, in collaboration with the Sugar Industry Research Institute, undertakes extension work amongst small sugarcane planters, having as one of its principal aims the raising of small planters' yields to a figure more comparable with that of the estates. The Department also maintains a plant inspection service to prevent introduction of new pests and diseases, controls the cane quarantine greenhouse and administers the Central Cane Arbitration Board.

The development of secondary industries is encouraged, particularly the development of the tea, tobacco and fibre industries and the production of vegetables and foodcrops. The local production of meat and milk, within the limits imposed by the availability of land for fodder and pasture, is encouraged in several ways, the chief of which are the improvement of the milk breed of cattle characteristic of Mauritius, the maintenance of an island-wide artificial insemination service and the fostering of a poultry industry.

Fisheries policy comprises conservation of the lagoon fisheries, development of off shore fishing and investigation of pond culture of fresh water fish.

The Board of Agriculture, Fisheries and Natural Resources studies all matters of policy and makes recommendations to the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Sugar

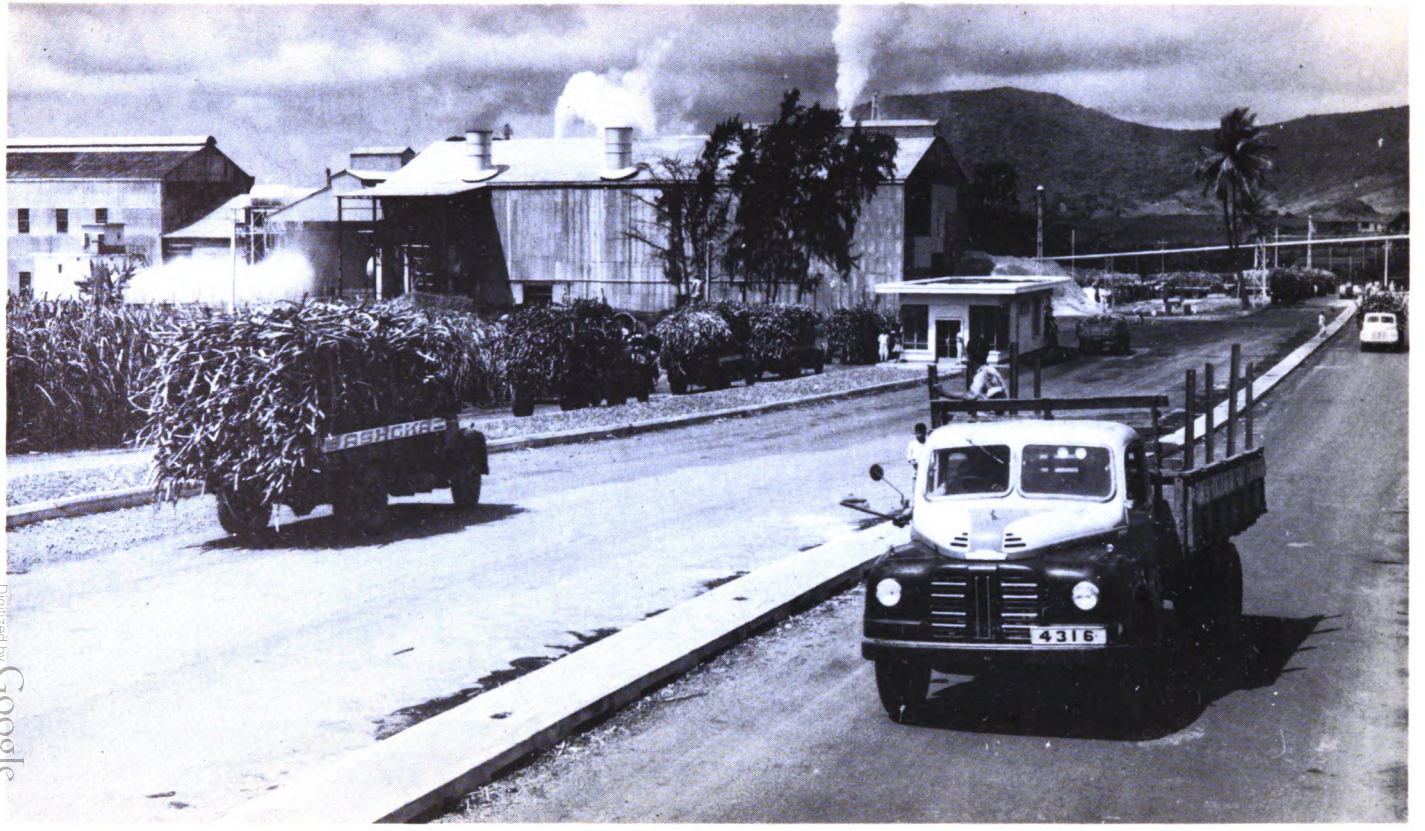
Sugar is the staple crop of the Island. The whole of the production, with the exception of some 26,900 metric tons consumed locally, is exported, mainly to the United Kingdom, Canada and the U.S.A.

Production in the preceding years was as follows:—

Year	*Metric tons*
1958	525,842
1959	580,372
1960	235,781 (Cyclone year)
1961	553,259
1962	532,856

In 1963, the production of sugar reached a record figure of 685,523 metric tons obtained from a harvested area of about 201,300 acres. The average yield of cane per acre over the whole Island was 28.5 metric tons. Sugar produced per cent cane was 11.93 compared with 11.52 in 1962. Sugar produced per acre was 3.41 metric tons, a figure which is unsurpassed in the records of the industry.

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Sugar cane arriving at a factory for weighing and crushing. Cane is transported either by lorry or by estate railways.

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Although an important proportion of cane land is under peasant ownership, mostly Indo-Mauritian, the bulk of the sugar is produced on a plantation scale. The large plantations with factories produced about 62 per cent of the total crop. The smaller peasant owners, some 26,000 of whom cultivate altogether about 19 per cent of the land under cane, often work their land with the assistance of their families, employing extraneous labour only at peak periods such as planting and harvesting. Many of these small planters have grouped themselves into co-operative societies for the purpose of consigning their canes to factories.

Sugarcane was milled in 1963 in 23 factories, all of which are company-owned.

The whole of the sugar manufactured is marketed by the Mauritius Sugar Syndicate. Since the war, the price of commonwealth sugar has been fixed year by year under the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement. The negotiated price quota of sugar exportable under the terms of the Agreement amounted to 351,750 long tons. The Commonwealth Sugar Agreement has been further extended and will now run up to the end of 1971.

Sugarcane is purchased by factories on the basis of two-thirds of the yield of sugar and by-products going to the planters. In order to buy and sell sugarcane, millers and planters have to enter into cane contracts, which are subject to the control of the Central Board which functions as a part of the organisation of the Department of Agriculture.

Exports of molasses amounted to 149,586 metric tons. Alcohol of different strengths were produced, equivalent to a production of 1,736,000 litres of pure alcohol compared with 1,550,000 litres in 1962. The greater part of this production was used locally as rum and denatured spirits; 32,160 litres of high strength spirits were exported.

Industrial Crops

Three other crops are grown industrially, but on a small scale compared with sugarcane. These are tea, tobacco, and aloe fibre.

Tea

Climatic conditions obtaining throughout the year were generally favourable for the production of tea. As a result of this and the increased areas now coming into bearing, production rose from 2,799,627 pounds of black tea in 1962 to 3,256,891 pounds. 2,159,235 pounds of black tea were exported in 1963,

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this being 66 per cent of the total production, compared with 1,589,216 lbs exported in 1962 representing 57 per cent of total production. The bulk of the exported tea was consigned to the United Kingdom and sold on the London Auctions. The average selling price of the 16,887 chests of Mauritian tea offered for sale on the London market was 3 shs.5.81d per pound, a decrease of 5.4d per pound compared with 1962.

Of the 8,000 acres of land scheduled for planting to tea under the original Government-sponsored scheme for the expansion of the tea industry, about 1,908 acres had been cleared and planted by the end of the year. Of Government's direct participation in this scheme (300 acres), some 138 acres were distributed on lease as smallholdings of about 4 acres each.

Work on the second Government-sponsored development scheme which aims at the planting of a further 2,500 acres under tea by mid 1965 has continued, good progress being made in the clearing and preparation of land for planting which has been aided by favourable weather conditions. By the end of the year, 1,280 acres of land had been contour surveyed, 1,090 acres cleared, 650 acres prepared for planting and 615 acres actually planted.

Two factories, Bois Chéri and La Flora have during the year materially increased their capacity by the installation of " Withering Troughs " and a third, Nouvelle France, was in the process of being reconstructed. The number of factories in operation remained at six.

Tobacco

Tobacco was grown on 784 acres in 1963, an increase of 103 acres compared with 1962. Of this area, 615 acres were under Virginian varieties, 17 acres under Burley and the remainder under Amarello air cured. No Amarello flue cured was required by the manufacturers of cigarettes. The total production amounted to 483 metric tons compared with 372 metric tons in 1962.

Imports of cigarettes remained at about the same level as in 1962 but imports of leaf tobacco appeared to have decreased slightly. During the year, there was an increase in consumption of locally manufactured cigarettes.

Domestic Virginian leaf blended with imported leaf was used in the manufacture of " Matinée ", " Vogue ", " Embassy ",

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" Mills ", and " Soirée " brands of local cigarettes, which sell in competition with imported Virginian cigarettes.

Amarello and some of the lower grades of domestic Virginian leaf were utilised for the cheaper brands, selling below the price range of imported cigarettes.

Tobacco was almost entirely grown in small plots, for the most part by peasant cultivators.

In 1963 producers received on the average Rs 7.55 per kilo of Virginian flue-cured leaf, Rs 2.55 per kilo of Amarello air-cured and Rs 2.47 per kilo for Burley.

Mauritius produces flue-cured Virginian of good colour and flavour but attempts to obtain an export market have failed owing to the relatively high cost of production compared with other producing countries, the small acreage under cultivation and the necessity of selling the " run of the crop ".

The area annually grown is determined by the Tobacco Board according to the estimated requirements of the manufacturers. The Board comprises representatives of the various interests concerned. The Tobacco Warehouse, operated by the Board, receives, grades, processes, bales, stores and sells all the tobacco produced in the island.

Fibre

In 1963, 12 fibre factories were in operation producing 1350 tons compared with 1299 tons in 1962 and 1,111 tons in 1961. In addition to the 1963 production, the Government Sack Factory had to import 308 tons of jute not only to supplement the supplies of aloe fibre but also to reduce the cost of production. Jute was purchased at an average price of Rs 669 per ton and aloe fibre at an average price of Rs 1,212 per ton.

The following goods were produced by the Government Sack Factory in 1963:

794,597 Aloe sacks (6×8) of 80 kgs. capacity
705,524 Aloe-jute sacks (5×7) of 80 kgs. capacity
7,994 Aloe-jute sacks (10×11) 'Flour sacks)
26,389 small bags (18×26)
28,039 yards of filter cloth
1,734 yards of other fabrics
17,253 kilos of yarn
106 kilos of other products

All the fibre produced in the Island is marketed by the Mauritius Hemp Producers' Syndicate which grades, bales, stores and sells the fibre.

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Food Crops

The production of foodcrops and vegetables was approximately 37,115 tons form an area of about 8,803 acres.

The Extension Service continued to advise farmers on improved crop husbandry. Home and field visits were paid to farmers. Agricultural problems were discussed and lectures on agricultural topics were delivered at evening meetings organised throughout the island. Demonstrations on the correct use of fertilizers, the timely application of insecticides and fungicides for the control of pests and diseases and the measures to be adopted for soil conservation were carried out on farmers' land.

The Scheme for the subsidization of certified seed potatoes met with considerable response from farmers and some 715 tons of certified seed were planted. The acreage under potatoes increased and average yields were comparatively high.

Demonstration of fodder conservation in pit silos continued and the silage obtained after six months conservation was of good quality.

The fifth district headquarters and demonstration centre was inaugurated at Central Flacq in September and an agricultural show was held. The show was visited by a large number of planters and farmers who were given the opportunity of seeing some of the aspects of the work being done by the various sections of the Department of Agriculture.

Livestock

4,010 cows of the milch breed were slaughtered compared with 1,836 in 1961 and 1,928 in 1962. On humane grounds, permits were issued for the slaughter of 135 animals of the milch breed of all ages and of all sexes. In addition 1,700 males of all ages of the milch breed were slaughtered.

11,413 artificial inseminations were carried out and the overall conception rate fell by 7 per cent to 61 per cent. In addition, 6,477 cases requiring veterinary aid inclusive of assessment of pregnancy and enucleation of ovarian cysts were attended to. Additional basic data on the Creole milch breed was collected. Selected bucks of the Anglo Nubian breed were provided to individual goat breeders and to three extension service centres.

To improve egg production and to encourage broiler production, some 25,000 day-old chicks from progeny tested stock of various breeds were sold to poultry keepers.

Broad Breasted Bronze turkeys imported in 1962 were mated last year and the progeny's rearability and growth rate were most encouraging.

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The new animal health laboratory was completed in February, 1963. 365,000 doses of Newcastle Disease vaccine (live and inactivated); 47,500 doses of Fowl Pox vaccine and 3,600 doses of Canine Distemper vaccine were produced during the year. In addition 2,219 post mortem examinations were carried out.

FISHERIES

The control of the Mauritius Fisheries is exercised by the Fisheries Division of the Department of Agriculture. This consists of a Fisheries Officer and an inspectorate of 59 inspectors and guards who are responsible for the enforcement of the laws regulating fisheries, the collection and establishment of statistics and the study and implementation of all new measures which might be recommended for the better protection of the stock, for the improvement of the efficiency of the industry and the welfare of the fishing community.

The Department has given considerable attention to an aspect of production new to Mauritius, namely, the farming of freshwater fish for the production of food rich in protein which is deficient in the diet of most classes of the population.

Fishing is practised in the lagoon surrounding most of the Island, which covers an area of about 95 square miles and on the off-shore shelf, to the 100 fathom line, which is extensive in the northern part forming a bank of about 200 square miles with an average depth of 35 fathoms. About 2,600 fishermen with some 1,800 light fishing boats and a number of deep-sea pinnaces, together produce an annual catch of some 2,000 tons.

Usually middlemen supply the boats and gear to the fishermen who in return bring in their catch at an agreed price. The middleman is expected to make advances during periods of enforced idleness occasioned by adverse weather. Loans were granted from Government funds either for the construction of boats or repairs to those damaged during cyclones. This scheme is now completed and Rs 499,875 have been loaned to 1,184 persons.

The price of fish varies with the size of catches; it is generally lower during the summer months when more fish is caught.

Oyster Culture

The application of modern techniques of oyster culture has continued, and results obtained are very promising. New types of spat collectors have been produced, and the oyster culture is being extended to areas other than barachois. Reproduction has still to be confined to barachois and their vicinity.

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FORESTRY

(a) Areas of different types of forest. Forest areas in Mauritius are classified as follows—

I. *Crown Forest Estate*

	Acreage	Total area in acres
A. *Areas potentially productive*		
(a) Plantations of exotics (part temporarily unplanted due to cyclone damage	12,260	
(b) Area suitable and available for economic forestry;—		
(i) Mountain Reserves areas	3,140	
(ii) National Reserves	3,285	
(iii) Other areas	12,151	
		30,836
Catchment areas supplying existing and proposed reservoirs etc. amounting to approximately 22,000 acres, are included in this total of 30,836 acres.		
B. *Areas potentially unproductive*		
(i) Mountain Reserves areas	14,845	
(ii) National Reserves	1,220	
(iii) Other areas	5,035	
		21,100
Catchment areas amounting to approximately 6,000 acres are included in this total of 21,100 acres.		
C. *Areas leased or otherwise occupied and not available for forestry (inclusive of approximately 6,000 acres of catchment areas in respect of existing and proposed reservoirs etc.)*		15,100
TOTAL =		67,036

The area of Crown Forest Estate shows a reduction of 204 acres due to excisions in respect of land surrendered for village sites and exchanges.

II. *Leased Crown Lands in Coastal Belt of 250 (French) feet—Pas Géométriques*

(i) Tree Plantations (mainly Casuarina equisetifolia)	4,190	
(ii) Rocky grazing lands with trees	1,100	
		5,290

III. *Privately-owned forest lands*

(i) Mountain Reserves (ii) River Reserves	Protected by law	9,000 6,500	
			15,500
(iii) Forest Lands (iv) Scrub Land (including grass and grazing lands)	Not protected by law	15,000 70,875	
			85,875
	TOTAL =		106,665
	GRAND TOTAL =		173,701

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Policy and methods of management

The crown Forest Estate. A statement of Forest Policy for Mauritius received the formal approval of Government during the year. This Policy, which is summarised below, now forms the basis on which the Crown Forest Estate is to be managed—

(i) to effect the permanent reservation of a tree cover for the benefit of the present and future inhabitants of Mauritius, on such areas of land as are required for the maintenance and improvement of the climatic and physical condition of the country, the safeguarding of water supplies and soil fertility, and the prevention of damage to rivers and agricultural and land by flooding and erosion.

(ii) to effect the permanent reservation as forests of such areas of land as are required for the supply in perpetuity at reasonable rates of all forms of forest produce required by the people for agricultural, domestic and industrial purposes.

(iii) to manage the Forest Estate with the object of obtaining the highest revenue compatible with sustained yield, in so far as this is consistent with (i) and (ii) above.

(iv) to effect the fullest possible utilisation of the products of the forest subject to the requirements of forest management and to encourage the most economic utilisation of both imported and local timber.

(v) to educate and train Mauritian personnel to the standard required to fill posts of all grades within the Forest Department; to foster, by education and propaganda, a real understanding among the people of Mauritius of the value of forests to them and to their descendants and to encourage and assist, in every way, the owners of private forests, woodlands and plantations, to manage such crops in a sound manner.

(vi) to co-operate with other land interests in the achievement of optimum land allocation and usage, and in all projects for soil and water conservation and the prevention of erosion, and to accept the principle that security of tenure and long term planning are essential for the successful management of the Forest Estate.

Organization of the forest industry. The Forest Department is directly responsible for the management of the Crown Forest Estate and all silvicultural operations therein are conducted by the Department. Exploitation of timber during the year was

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carried out partly by the concessionaire and partly by the Department.

Privately-owned forest lands other than those protected by law, such as River and Mountain Reserves, are managed by individual owners.

All forest produce is consumed locally.

Within privately-owned River and Mountain Reserves which are protected by law, no felling or forestry operations of any kind may be carried out except with the approval of Government, such approval being given only in exceptional circumstances and being restricted to the removal of dead and fallen trees. The protection of these privately-owned Reserves is undertaken by the Forest Department.

Initial processing of timber: sawmills. In the exploitation being undertaken by the concessionaire, timber is extracted to roadside by tractors and modern methods of mechanical loading are adopted. Besides the sawmill operated by the concessionaire, 75 private mills were in operation.

Marketing of produce. Timber from the Crown Forest Estate was sold either standing or in the log, at roadside. The Department continued to dispose of firewood by the 'corde', at roadside, but in addition, areas yielding material suitable for conversion into firewood or charcoal were sold by area, at auction, for exploitation by the purchaser.

Produce from privately-owned forests is generally sold standing to dealers in timber, firewood and charcoal, though some owners carry out their own exploitation of saleable material.

Exploitation of forest produce

A. *From Crown Forest Estate.* The following quantities of timber and fuelwood were exploited during the year:—

	Cubic feet round measure
(a) (i) *Timber*	
(a) Hardwoods	78,250
(b) Softwoods	389,700
(ii) *Poles and masts*	
(a) Hardwoods	42,000
(b) Softwoods	900
GRAND TOTAL ...	510,850

	Cubic feet (solid)
(iii) *Fuelwood*	
Firewood (25,980 cordes')	1,299,000
Charcoal (8,175 'cordes')	408,750
TOTAL ...	1,707,750

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(b) In addition to timber and firewood exploited Departmentally, the following approximate volumes were exploited from areas of Crown Forest Estate by purchasers of utilizable material sold, standing, by auction, and by the public removing dry waste wood, free of charge, in headloads (about 8,000 'cordes' equivalent to 400,000 cubic feet):—

	Cubic feet round measure
(i) timber (softwood)	97,000
(ii) poles (hardwood)	6,000
	103,000
	Cubic feet (solid)
(iii) fuelwood	669,000

B. *From privately-owned forests and leased Crown Lands*

(i) *Timber.* An estimated volume of some 378,000 cubic feet of round timber, principally 'filao' and eucalyptus was produced (accurate figures are not available).

(ii) *Firewood and charcoal.* The quantity of fuelwood produced is estimated at 6,850 'cordes' of firewood (342,000 cubic feet solid) and 232,000 kgs. of charcoal (equivalent to 58,000 cubic feet of fuelwood).

Imports of timber

An equivalent roundwood volume of 646,935 cubic feet of timber of a gross value of Rs 2,948,112 was imported during the year principally from Malaya and Siam.

Local Consumption of Forest Produce

The approximate volumes of forest produce available for local consumption were as follows:—

	Roundwood Volume Cubic ft.
I. Major Forest Produce—(Timber and Poles)	
(a) From Crown Forests	613,850
(b) From unleased Pas Géométriques	1,000
(c) From privately-owned Forests and leased Pas Géométriques (estimated)	378,000
(d) Imports during calendar year 1963	646,935
TOTAL ...	1,639,785

	Cubic ft. (solid)
II. Minor Forest Produce	
(a) Firewood from Crown Forest Estate (in stacked) 'cordes' of 50 cubic feet solid)	1,200,000
(b) Sold standing and free removals of wastewood from Crown Forest Estate (estimated)	669,000
(c) Firewood from privately-owned Forest Land or leased Crown Lands (estimated)	342,000
(d) Fuelwood converted into charcoal—Crown Forest Estate	408,750
(e) Fuelwood converted into charcoal—privately owned lands or leased Crown Lands	58,000
TOTAL ...	2,776,750

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The Forest Department

Organization of the Department. The permanent establishment of the Department consisted of 163 posts inclusive of clerical staff. At the end of the year, one Assistant Conservator, eighteen Forest Guard, one Surveyor and one Assistant Surveyor posts were vacant. The smallest administrative unit in the management of the Crown Forest Estate is the Forest Section under the control of a Forester assisted by one or more Forest Guards. Twenty nine Forest Sections are grouped territorially into four Forest Ranges each administered by a Forest Ranger assisted by one or more Deputy Rangers. Two Forest Rangers constitute a Division which is administered by a Divisional Forest Assistant under the general control of the Conservator of Forests. An Assistant Conservator co-ordinates exploitation operations and supplies of timber, poles and fuel while the Deputy Conservator deals with the silvicultural aspect and assists the Conservator in general administration.

For routine forestry work the Department was employing, at the end of 1963, a labour force of 592 labourers and piece-workers. These employees were engaged on silvicultural operations, exploitation, road-making, nursery and survey work. In addition, 1,000 temporary labourers were being employed on relief work.

Food production. The application of the "taungya" system is restricted to the forest lands at the lower and warmer elevations and the coastal belt owing to the damage caused to crops by deer, pigs and monkeys in the upland forest zones.

Protection. Despite the usual outbreaks of fire on Signal Mountain, the experimental plantings were satisfactorily protected against fire damage but considerable trouble was again experienced in preventing damage by trespassing goats.

Tea Cultivation. For the extension of tea planting on Crown Forest Lands in the Midlands and Vuillemin Blocks, the Forest Department carried out the initial clearing in order to salvage utilizable timber, poles and firewood over a total area of approximately 490 acres.

Silviculture. The planting of new areas, with exotic timber species, covered a total of 615 acres, and 480 acres of cyclone-damaged plantations were coppiced or replanted.

Expenditure and Revenue. Expenditure under the Recurrent Forestry Vote amounted to Rs 2,133,850, the wages of relief labourers amounting to a further Rs 252,500. Revenue derived from the sale of forest produce and rentals in respect of Shooting

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and Fishing Leases totalled Rs 574,000, the value of stocks on hand in the forest, and timber sold but not yet paid for at 31.12.63, accounting for an additional Rs 65,000 approximately.

Manufacturing Industries

Apart from the sugar, tea, tobacco and fibre industries, various small industries have been long established in the Island. These include:—

Aerated beverages	matches
basket and wicker work	printing
bricks	rattan furniture
cigarettes	rum
engineering	salt
footwear	tanning
lime	wine

In addition, a number of new industries have been set up as a result of the Government's declared policy of encouragement to secondary industries. These are listed hereunder:—

Accumulators	metal doors and windows
beer	metal works
bus bodies	mirrors (and coloured stained glass)
candles	nails
carbon dioxide	paints (bituminous and plastic emulsion)
cold storage	saw-milling
concrete pipes	shirts
dairy produce	steel furniture
fibre glass	wood-working
furniture polish	
louvres	
mattresses (spring)	

Among the measures taken to stimulate the steady growth and development of secondary industries, is the recent amendment of the Customs Tariff Ordinance which provides for import duty concessions or complete exemptions in respect of machinery, plant and raw materials imported for the manufacture or preparation of most of the commodities which are produced in the Colony. It also provides, under certain conditions, for the grant of drawbacks or remissions of the whole or part of the import duty paid in respect of materials used in the local manufacture of goods, when such goods are exported from the Colony in the ordinary course of trade. Furthermore, suitable alterations to the tariff have been made with a view to stimulating the local production of manufactured goods. The Income Tax Ordinance provides additional incentives: the initial and annual allowance with respect to industrial buildings, plant and machinery have been increased, the benefit of allowances for wear and tear has been entended to machinery let or hired, an allowance in respect of capital expenditure incurred on scientific

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research related to any trade has been introduced and, more significantly, tax relief over a number of years is being allowed to approved companies investing in new industries or existing industries not operating on a scale suitable to the economic requirements of the Island.

Proposals for setting up other industrial enterprises have been received from industrialists and are under consideration.

Co-operative Societies

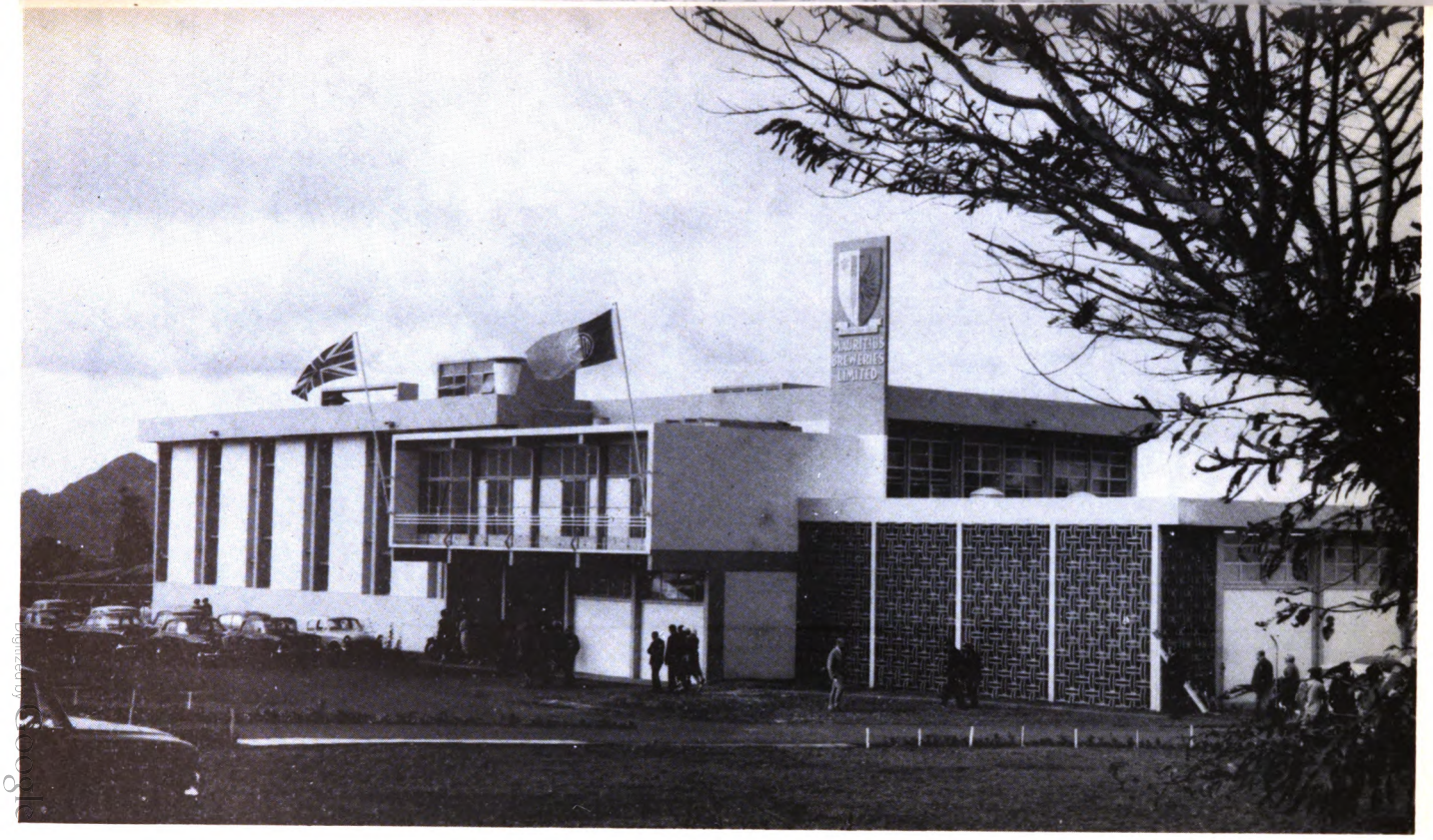
The co-operative movement in Mauritius and Rodrigues is guided by a Department of Government in conjunction with a secondary society—the Mauritius Co-operative Union Limited. The movement derives financial support from another secondary society, the Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank Limited, whilst the interests of agricultural and distributive societies are attended to by the Mauritius Co-operative Agricultural Federation Limited. and the Mauritius Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited, respectively.

The movement is composed of 4 Secondary Societies, 317 Primary Societies comprising 32,140 members; and divided into 172 Co-operative Credit Societies of unlimited liability of which 6 are confined to lessees of Crown Lands in Land Settlement Schemes, and 145 Co-operative Societies of limited liability comprising 75 Consumers' Stores Societies, 33 Societies providing savings facilities (16 Schools, 2 for salary earners, including one credit union, 15 for other persons) 16 Transport Societies, 6 Tea Marketing Societies, 9 Fishermen's Societies of which two furnished credit, 3 Housing Societies, one Printing Society, one Better Living Society and one Farming Society.

The Department of Co-operation is responsible for the registration of new societies, including the advice, guidance and economic investigation involved in the organisation; for the audit and supervision of existing societies and for the education of officers and members in co-operative activities, in both of which it receives material assistance from the staff of the Mauritius Co-operative Union Ltd.; for arbitration in disputes, and, when necessary, for the cancellation of registration and liquidation of societies. During the year the raising of standards of management, secretarial work and book-keeping and the control of credit within the consumer section of the movement, continued to engage the main attention of the department.

The Mauritius Co-operative Union Limited, at the end of the year, had a membership of 221 societies. Its objects

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NEW INDUSTRIES—PHOENIX BREWERY
Beer is now being produced locally and competing successfully with imported brands.

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are to promote co-operation, to bring together co-operative institutions for common endeavour, to assist with supervision and audit, to promote education in co-operative activities and to represent the Movement. During the year the Union provided stationery to societies upon payment, and arranged for legal advice and assistance to societies. At the end of the year the staff consisted of 14 supervisors, of whom one acted as Secretary. The total revenue of the Union, for the financial year ending on 28th February, 1963 amounted to Rs 100, 944 of which 21 per cent was derived from donations from Secondary Societies, and 29 per cent was derived from a grant in aid from Government (Rs 30,000), the balance of 50 per cent being the society's revenue from audit and supervision and from the legal aid fees. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies is *ex-officio* the President of the Union and of its central and executive committees. The Deputy Registrar and two Co-operative Officers are *ex-officio* members of the Union.

The Mauritius Co-operative Agricultural Federation Limited, with a membership of 152 societies, acts on behalf of its societies in agricultural matters and for this purpose retains the services of a barrister and of a firm of Chartered Accountants. The Federation was represented on a number of Government boards and Committees. Its staff consists of a secretary, an assistant seceretary, and a messenger.

The Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank Limited, at the end of the financial year, had a membership of 190 societies, share capital of Rs 542,893, reserves of Rs 1,061,271 and deposits of Rs 1,780,563. Loans issued amounted to Rs 4,980,085, an increase of Rs 1,629,974 over the previous year. Loans to member societies consisting mainly of cane-growers, are secured on the societies' sugar, all of which is sold through the Bank's Secretary-Manager, who is also the Bank's broker. The rate of interest charged on loans by the Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank to the member societies varied with the Bank Rate from $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent and back again.

The Mauritius Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited, with 75 member-societies, had a turnover of Rs 4,660,105 for the financial year ended 28th February, 1963. The Society's share capital was Rs 144,053 and the statutory reserve amounted to Rs 111,055.

Credit Societies of Unlimited Liability

At the end of the year there were 172 credit societies of unlimited liability, of which 19 were in Rodrigues, with a

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membership of 10,636. The majority of the members of the Mauritius societies are cane-growers while those of the Rodrigues societies are mainly engaged in subsistence farming. On 28th February, 1963, loans by Mauritius Societies to members totalled Rs 4,976,836 and were secured by lien on the crops and by sureties. Payments to members for cane marketed through the agency of their societies amounted to Rs 14,657,211, including cyclone insurance payments. The deposits of members amounted to Rs 543,723. Share Capital of all societies amounted to Rs 533,529.

Credit Societies of Limited Liability

Of the nine Fishermen's Co-operative Societies of limited liability in existence at the end of the year two, one in Mauritius and one in Rodrigues, provided credit for members, the other seven jointly owned fishing boats and gear, and marketed catches.

Thrift and Savings Societies

There were seventeen societies at the end of the year, including one Credit Union. Two of the Societies served salary earners only. Amongst rural societies members tended to find that savings could be effected as easily and more profitably with credit societies. At the close of the financial year ended 28th February, 1963, the savings in the two salary earners societies amounted to Rs 229,288, and in other societies to Rs 297,516.

School Savings Banks

By the end of the year the number of school savings banks was reduced to sixteen. The transitory membership inevitable in schools does not make for stability and every school society finally depends upon the hard pressed and non-resident school staff. In addition, few schools have gardens or workshops which would enable pupils to save money earned by themselves by means more constructive than obtaining it from their parents; in rural areas pocket money for children is the exception rather than the rule. In Rodrigues, however, steady progress was maintained. The three school savings banks there saved up to the close of the financial year on 28th February, 1963, Rs 11,496 whereas in Mauritius the savings were Rs 14,669.

The Mauritius Co-operative Union continued to supply books free of charge from its Education Fund, and as a special concession to help the school savings banks to build up funds for communal activities, the Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank paid interest at 3½ per cent per annum on their deposits.

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Co-operative Retail Stores

One new Society was registered during the year and three were cancelled. On 28th February, 1963 there were 75 co-operative retail stores on the register, 73 in Mauritius and 2 in Rodrigues with a membership of 14,507 and a turnover of Rs 6,648,702. The majority of societies operated successfully, but a number suffered losses through defalcations, bad management and excessive credit sales. In addition to the usual bad debts reserve, all societies are building up, by allocation of surplus, what is termed a mutual aid fund intended to cover credit sales up to the amount of the fund on the basis of a maximum credit limit for each member. In this way the fund serves as a buffer against losses on credit sales and makes up for capital tied up in debts.

Marketing Societies

The marketing of green tea leaf is subject to the Tea Industry Control Ordinance, 1959 and regulations made thereunder: Green leaf is sold to factories under annual contract. No Tea Marketing Societies effected contracts for the sale of members leaf after 30th June, 1961.

Other Societies marketing produce consisted of nine fishermen's societies, which sold 164,091 lbs of fish valued at Rs 114,190.

Housing Societies

Three housing societies had a total membership of 314, share capital of Rs 12,360 and deposits of Rs 23,607. They were financed by Government loan, and owed Rs 316,586 to the Government at the close of the financial year ended 28th February, 1963.

Printing Society

The Co-operative Printing Society had 847 members, a share capital of Rs 29,850 and a printing press in Port Louis. It carried out Rs 68,732 worth of printing business during its financial year ended 28th February, 1963.

Transport Societies

The number of Transport Societies was 16 by 28th February, 1963. Statistics for the financial year show a membership of 850, paid up share capital of Rs 250,288 and 40,138 metric tons of canes transported. Capital expenditure incurred by members of these societies is reimbursed from the Sugar Planters Rehabilitation Fund. Licence fees continued to be paid at the same rate as public transporters.

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Better Living Society

One co-operative better-living society operated in Long Mountain. It maintained a kindergarten school for about 25 children under five years of age. The kindergarten received a subsidy from a Co-operative Credit Society.

Educational Activities

In addition to staff conferences, the staff continued to take correspondence courses in book-keeping and other subjects from the Co-operative College, Loughborough.

AUDIT

The audit of all societies' accounts for the period ending 28th February, 1963 was completed. Except in the case of three secondary societies, the printing society and one salary earners thrift society, which employed professional or approved auditors, the audits were carried out by the staff of the Department of Co-operation assisted by the Mauritius Co-operative Union Limited. In addition to the annual statutory audit, interim audits were done throughout the year.

ARBITRATIONS

Two hundred and thirty nine disputes were referred to the Registrar during the year. The majority were referred to arbitration; appeals to the Registrar numbered three. Most of the disputes arose from failure to pay for goods purchased on credit, others concerned stock and cash shortages in stores, and a minority a failure to repay loans. Where necessary the awards were referred for execution to the attorney retained by the Mauritius Co-operative Union Limited. The Co-operative movement was fortunate in retaining the honorary services as arbitrators of two retired civil servants and two retired teachers all active members of the movement.

TABLE

The following table gives an indication of developments over three years:—

		1961	*1962*	*1963*
Total Societies ...		332	330*	321
Total Members ...		32,604	32,042*	32,140
Total Turnover ...	Rs	42,143,112*	40,244,230*	41,113,105*
Share Capital ...	Rs	1,948,449*	2,050,925*	2,069,478
Reserve Funds ...	Rs	3,028,471*	3,264,273*	3,537,564
Other Funds ...	Rs	754,783*	843,023*	868,219*
Government loans to Societies ...	Rs	411,386*	359,493*	477,757*
Total Assets ...	Rs	13,217,880*	13,099,163*	14,018,069*

*For the year ended 28th February.

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Chapter 7: Social Services

EDUCATION

Organization

The Education (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 2 of 1960) has placed the former Education Department under the control of the Minister of Education and Cultural Affairs who is now statutorily responsible for the progress and development of the educational system of the Colony. The chief adviser of the Minister is the Permanent Secretary who is responsible for the proper administration of the Ministry.

The Education Ordinance (No. 39 of 1957) provides for the appointment by the Minister of an Advisory Board to advise him on all questions concerning education in the Colony. The Minister may also appoint sub-committees on the recommendation of the Board.

The staff of the Ministry of Education now comprises over 4,200 officers.

Educational Facilities

In primary education the English pattern is followed, generally speaking, subject to adjustments to suit local conditions. The course lasts six years; pupils enter at the age of 5 but are allowed to stay up to the age of 12 to compete for the junior scholarships which entitle the winners to free tuition in secondary schools.

On the 31st October, 1963,there were 202 Government and Aided Primary Schools providing free education to 124,049 pupils. The 73 aided schools are managed by three Education Authorities: Roman Catholic (53 schools), Church of England (17 schools), Hindi (3 schools). There were in addition 123 other primary and secondary schools registered with the Ministry with a roll of 6,024 primary school children. This number, which includes 2,743 children in the primary sections of the secondary schools brought the total number of children receiving primary education in 1963 to 130,073. Of that total 69,522 were boys and 60,551 girls.

Teachers in aided primary schools are paid by the Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs and are appointed, transferred or promoted on the recommendation of the Authority concerned. The promotion of teachers in the Government primary schools is, like that of other civil servants, subject to the Governor's approval,

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which is usually given on the advice of the Public Service Commission.

According to the Education Ordinance, a total of 120 Government scholarships are obtainable on a competitive basis, 70 for boys and 50 for girls. These scholarships which provide free secondary education, free travelling and a grant of Rs 300 a year, are tenable at Government, aided and unaided secondary schools, which have been given approval as ' B ' status schools. A number of similar scholarships are awarded to candidates from Rodrigues and to entrants at the Technical Institute.

Secondary education is almost exclusively of the grammar school type, leading to university courses. Government schools can meet only part of the demand and since 1951 a number of private schools which can offer satisfactory guarantees of proper schooling up to School Certificate or Higher School Certificate level has been subsidized. There were on the 31st October, 1,945 pupils in the four Government secondary schools, 4,900 in the subsidized schools known as " approved secondary school " and 21,289 in the unaided secondary schools. This total of 28,134 secondary school pupils was made up of 18,526 boys and 9,608 girls. The 110 secondary schools comprise 4 Government, 13 grant-aided and 93 other schools.

Six scholarships are awarded annually by the Government of Mauritius to Form VI students (4 boys and 2 girls) who top the lists of candidates at the Cambridge Higher School Certificate examination. These scholarships, of an annual value of £560—£600, entitle the holders to a four to six-year university course in the U.K. or other approved countries and to a free return passage.

Fifteen scholarships were awarded during the year to Mauritian students under the Commonwealth Scholarship Plan and Teacher Training Scheme.

Apart from the College of Agriculture and Teachers' Training College, ther are no institutions in the Colony which provide full-time post-secondary education, and students wishing to follow university and other post-secondary courses have to go overseas. In 1963, as far as information is available, there were 1,075 students following full-time courses in institutions of higher education in the United Kingdom, Eire and other countries of the Commonwealth, Europe, the U.S.A., Israel, United Arab Republic and the Royal College of Nairobi.

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All those seeking permanent service in the Government and aided primary schools must pass through the Teachers' Training College at Beau Bassin. The normal course is of two years' duration. During the year, 567 (376 men and 191 women) were in training at the College or in the primary schools.

Temporary accommodation was still being used in primary schools which had been damaged by cyclone *Carol* in 1960, pending the completion of the reconstruction programme.

Five new schools were opened during the year and 41 classrooms added to existing schools; building work on five new primary schools and on the replacement of two primary schools were started. Accommodation was still scarce at the end of the year and a number of schools had to operate on a double shift system.

School Health Service

The School Health Service falls under two headings: medical and dental. The medical staff comprises a Senior School Medical Officer and two School Medical Officers. The Nursing staff consists of five nurses assisted by three Health Workers. There are ten dentists, assisted by Clinical and Clerical Assistants, giving part time attention to schools.

Entrants into all Government and aided primary schools and into the four Government secondary schools are medically examined. Leavers and pupils in the intermediate age group are also medically examined. Free medical treatment is provided for primary school pupils. All new teaching staff and school caretakers are medically examined and X-rayed. Teachers for transfers on medical grounds are also medically examined by the School Medical Officers.

The School Nurses and Health Wokers carry out cleanliness and health surveys (including distance vision testing) in the Primary schools.

Reconditioned pasteurised milk is given to the pupils of the Government and aided primary schools. Extra milk, iron tablets, and halibut oil capsules are issued on the recommendation of the School Medical Officers.

The dental service provides treatment to primary school pupils only. Pupils of schools in the urban areas are treated at the hospitals while schools in rural areas are visited by four Mobile Dental Clinics. Teeth cleaning drills are held regularly at school. Tooth brushes at a subsidised price are available for sale to primary

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school pupils. Nit combs and nail brushes are sold at cost price to school children and their parents.

All school health personnel are officers of the Health Department.

Handicrafts

The teaching of ' Art and Craft ' in the primary schools has received a new impetus with the arrival into the country of Mr. J. Gilmore of the " Canadian External Aid " during the year. Drawing, Painting, Modelling and Weaving have been included in the new syllabus for primary schools.

The Handicraft training programme of the Government Central Schools and Secondary Schools has remained unaffected.

School Broadcasts

Daily programmes for fifteen minute duration continued in 1963, for both Primary and Secondary Schools.

Of the five programmes for Primary Schools, two are of the ' Things we use ' type, and they are intended for Standards V and VI, the two top classes of Primary Schools. Two simple B.B.C. productions are also used; they are: ' Write it down ', a series, of progressive dictations with explanations, and ' Listen and Write ', a series of conversations on gramophone records between two English children, a boy and a girl. Every Friday there is a News Magazine programme, with one item in English and one in French. Subjects covered are of topical interest, and also items of civics, local history, lives of great men and so on.

Sixty per cent of primary schools are now equipped with radio sets and extension loudspeakers, and schools report weekly on the material broadcast, on the quality of reception, and on the condition of their receiving equipment.

Programmes for Secondary Schools are selected from the B.B.C. Colonial Schools Transcription Service productions. There is also a News Magazine and Current Affairs programme each week.

Visual and Aural Education

The activities of the Visual Aids Section include the drawing up of weekly film show programmes for the Government and aided primary schools, giving previews of the films to teachers on Saturdays, going round the Government and aided primary schools to show the films, and distributing visual aid materials (filmstrips, picture sets, photographs) to these schools. This year the Mobile Unit again visited all primary schools, once in each school term.

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and a second operator visited Government and Approved Secondary Schools on a fortnightly basis. The Visual Aids Section was also frequently on call to provide public address facilities and recorded music on school and Youth Organisation outdoor occasions. During the School Certificate Examinations the Section was also responsible for playing back tape-recorded dictations in examination centres.

During 1963, the Organiser of the Section attended a Television Production Course in England.

Music

The number of entries for Class Singing Examinations of the Royal Schools of Music, rose from 35 in 1962 to 46 in 1963. All passed; 13 with Distinction, and 18 with Merit. These results show an increasingly high standard in the Secondary Schools.

Mr. Leonard Blake (B. Mus. London) also examined 87 practical grades in piano, violin, clarinet and solo singing, in which 70 candidates were successful.

In written examinations, 66 candidates out of 89 passed.

Concerts were organized and Class Singing taught at the Teachers' Training College.

Class Singing was also encouraged in Primary Schools by courses for teachers and supervision in as many schools as possible.

The chamber orchestra for teachers continued to meet for weekly rehearsals.

Children's percussion bands have been popular in several schools.

Further Education

Post-secondary continuation classes provide instruction on a fee-paying basis in commercial subjects (with a view to those enrolled taking the London Chamber of Commerce and Royal Society of Arts Examination) and also in woodwork, tailoring, technical Drawing, Economics and English.

Science extension classes provide laboratory facilities for students reading for the G.C.E., Intermediate and Final B.Sc. examinations, and for local examinations in Pharmacy. The subjects studied are Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Botany and Zoology.

Youth Organisations

765 Clubs and Organizations provide facilities for approximately 37,500 young people between the ages of 14—25 years.

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A new Training and Conference Centre at Pointe Jerome is nearing 1st phase completion. The centre will be used for the training of voluntary club leaders and officials. Accommodation will be provided for 120 participants—gradually increasing to 250 when additional buildings are erected.

A pilot scheme of 20 school clubs, designed to cater for the 12—14 age group has been established. The organization will be expanded when and as staff and equipment are made available.

Mauritius continues its membership of the World Assembly of Youth.

Expenditure

Expenditure on Education, during the financial year 1962-63 amounted to 25.62 million of which 22.79 million was recurrent and 2.83 million was capital expenditure. Recurrent expenditure represents very nearly 14 per cent of total Government expenditure of a recurrent nature.

Public Health

The Ministry of Health is administered by a Permanent Secretary assisted by two Principal Medical Officers, one Principal Assistant Secretary, and two Assistant Secretaries.

General Health

The improvement in health conditions during the past few years, as demonstrated by the following statistical figures, is one of of the most notable features in the recent history of the Colony. The figure for 1963 for infantile mortality is the lowest on record:

Year	*Birth rate per °/₀₀*	*Death rate per °/₀₀*	*Infant Mortality rate per °/₀₀*	*Maternal Mortality rate per °/₀₀*
1938 ...	33·4	29·9	162·5	11·38
1943 ...	33·1	25·9	141·5	5·14
1950 ...	49·7	13·9	76·3	3·51
1955 ...	41·8	12·9	67·2	1·47
1956 ...	43·8	11·8	66·0	2·13
1957 ...	43·1	13·0	75·1	2·84
1958 ...	40·8	11·8	67·4	3·73
1959 ...	38·5	10·9	62·5	2·41
1960 ...	39·6	11.3	69.5	1.66
1961 ...	39·8	9·9	62.0	1·14
1962 ...	38·6	9·3	60·1	1·46
1963 ...	39·9	9·6	59·3	1·39

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Malaria

Although malaria has ceased to be a public health problem since 1953, a plan for the final eradication of the disease is being implemented with the guidance and technical help of the World Health Organisation. The number of cases of malaria detected during the year was 22. The figures below indicate the fall in the death rate due to malaria:

Year	*Deaths ascribed to malaria*	*Rate per 0/00 population*	*Percentage of deaths due to malaria to total deaths*
1945 ...	3,534	8·34	23·13
1948 ...	1,580	3·58	15·02
1951 ...	285	0·59	3·95
1952 ...	188	0·37	2·52
1953 ...	61	0·12	0·73
1954 ...	27	0·05	0·32
1955 ...	3	0·00	0·04
1956 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1957 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1958 ...	1	0·00	0·01
1959 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1960 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1961 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1962 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1963 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil

Infective and Parasitic Diseases

There has been an increase in the number of cases of Typhoid and a decrease in the incidence of Diptheria.

Year	*Deaths (ascribed to infective and parasitic diseases)*
1948 ...	4,052
1949 ...	1,603
1951 ...	863
1954 ...	665
1955 ...	311
1956 ...	354
1957 ...	416
1958 ...	315
1959 ...	263
1960 ...	403
1961 ...	320
1962 ...	223
1963 ...	208

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Poliomyelitis

Three cases were notified during the year in age group 1—4 years.

Enteric Fever

89 cases of enteric fever were notified, giving an incidence rate of 12.7 per 100,000.

Mortality Rates

Mortality from the principal groups of diseases is hereunder summarised:—

Group	*Number of deaths*		
	1961	*1962*	*1963*
(*a*) Infective and parasitic diseases	320	223	208
(*b*) Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs ...	349	281	283
(*c*) Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs	513	448	502
(*d*) Diseases of the circulation system	766	755	635
(*e*) Diseases of the digestive system	902	793	1,001
(*f*) Diseases of the respiratory system	666	688	889
(*g*) Certain diseases of early infancy	716	715	747

Institutional Facilities

The institutional facilities which were available in 1963 are tabulated hereunder:

	No.		*Beds*
(a) *Government Institutions*			
1 General Hospitals	8		1,587
2. Dispensaries (including 2 in the prisons)	42		—
3. Outpatient departments of Hospitals	11		—
4. Specialized Units : –			
(*a*) Maternity and Child Welfare Centres	31		—
(*b*) Maternity wards in hospitals	7		103
(*c*) Leprosarium	1		61
(*d*) Mental Hospital	1		735
(*e*) Prisons Hospitals	2		46
(*f*) Tuberculosis (Emergency)	1		52
5. Mobile Units :—			
(*a*) Dispensaries	5	units	
(*b*) Ante-natal Clinic	1	unit	
(*c*) Dental clinic	4	units	
(b) *Private Institutions*			
1. Sugar estate hospitals	25		491
2. Sugar estate dispensaries	24		—
3. Nursing homes and clinics	5		89

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There are 32 dispensaries in the rural areas. In addition a Mobile Dispensary Service comprising five units caters for the needs of scattered villages and hamlets where it would be uneconomic to provide a static out-patient service.

The Ante-natal Service is supplemented by a Mobile Unit which visits 81 localities in the extra urban and rural districts.

Medical and Health Staff

	Government	*Private*
1. Registered Medical Practitioners	122	60
2. Dentists	10	23
3. Pharmacists	4	51
4. Nurses of senior training ...	13	--
Nurses in hospitals	335	--
Dressers in hospitals	301	--
5. Midwives (all categories) ...	81	--
6. Health Inspectors	64	—
7. X-Ray Specialists	3	—
8. X-Ray Technicians	14	—

Expenditure on Health Services

Government expenditure on medical and health services in the financial year 1962-63 was Rs 18,252,206 or 10.8 per cent of the Colony's total expenditure for the year. This represented Rs 26.36 per head of the estimated population.

Housing and Planning

Town and Country Planning

The lack of topographical and cadastral survey, staff and equipment continued to make difficult the practical work of the preparation of planning schemes and of development control. The difficulties are increasing because of the unawareness of Town and Country Planning and of heavy load of work resulting on the small staff. The Planning Committees for Port Louis, Beau Bassin, Rose Hill, Quatre Bornes and Curepipe were still not formed but work progressed to a fair degree with Curepipe and Quatre Bornes on a voluntary consultation basis and an increasing amount with Port Louis. Reports and Drawings were prepared for the development of Crown Land for all purposes, and also the possibility of increasing the amount of Crown Land by the reclamation schemes in the Harbour area of Port Louis. The training of staff proceeded, two members studying by

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correspondence course in order to reach the Intermediate Examination of the Town and Country Planning Institute.

Housing

Construction work under the Cyclone Housing Scheme, 1960, continued throughout the year and by the end of December the Central Housing Authority had taken over from contractors:

4,851 houses from Messrs. Longtill (Mauritius) Limited out of a contract for 6,000

and 2,627 houses and outbuildings from Messrs. E. D. C. out of a contract for 3,000.

In addition in the urban housing estates over 100,000 feet of sewers and watermains had been laid by Messrs. Randabel and Sons Limited and over 5,200 outbuildings out of a contract for 6,000 had been handed over by them to the Central Housing Authority.

Of the houses handed over the following had been allocated to eligible applicants by the end of the year:

2,235	4-room	Longtill Houses
188	2-room	Longtill Houses
1,950	4-room	E.D.C. Houses
376	2-room	E.D.C. Houses

Cadastral Survey

One officer of the Survey Division, holding a Cambridge Higher School Certificate with Mathematics at principal level and Physics at subsidiary level, is following the One Year Army Survey Course at Newbury. The course is expected to terminate in April, 1964.

Valuation

The work of the Valuation Office is divided into general valuation work undertaken on instructions from Ministries and Departments and rating valuations undertaken on behalf of local authorities.

The Establishment of the office includes the Senior Valuer and two other Valuers, a Senior Valuation Assistant, three Valuation Assistants and four Junior Valuation Assistants. At present the senior professional post is the only one which is filled and three of the non-professional posts are filled by officers seconded from the Ministry of Works. Twenty temporary Valuation Assistants are employed as referencers on rating valuation.

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(a) General Section

The advice of the Valuation Officer is available to all Ministries and Departments on the acquisition of real property for public purposes, on exchanges of land, and on buildings and land rented for occupation as police stations, dispensaries, schools and other such uses. During 1963 the compulsory acquisition of land required for the construction of the Trunk Road has produced a great amount of work in this section. About 150 compensation cases have been settled, but payments on account have been made at about 75 per cent of the probable final settlement in most of the outstanding cases. Negotiations in these and other cases of compulsory purchase are undertaken either by the Chief Surveyor, as authorised officer appointed under the Land Acquisition Ordinance 1952, by the administrative staff of the Ministry acquiring, or by the Senior Valuer.

(b) Rating Valuation

During 1963 much time has been devoted to valuations for rating. The Senior Valuer was appointed Valuation Officer under the Local Government Ordinance 1962 and so became responsible for the preparation of a Valuation List for each of the four proclaimed Towns. The Ordinance of 1962 prescribes a basis of assessment to "net annual value" in place of the basis of "full and fair" value prescribed by the old Town Council Ordinances.

The resources of the Valuation Office were inadequate to deal with all four Towns at once so it was decided that the new basis should come into operation in the Town of Curepipe on the 1st July 1963 and the others would follow later. In May the Town Council decided that as the list could not be ready in time to allow a full appreciation of the impact of the new basis of assessment on different classes of ratepayers the operation of the new system should be postponed for twelve months.

By Proclamation No. 13 of 1963 dated the 16th August a Town of Vacoas-Phoenix was created. It was then necessary to prepare a valuation list for the new Town which could be brought into operation for the ensuing financial year starting on the 1st July 1964. Many of the properties in the Town had been inspected between 1959 and 1963, but the proclaimed boundaries included areas beyond those originally proposed and considerable new development had taken place so a complete review was called for. One of the principal difficulties was that no cadastral survey of any kind had ever been carried out. There was not

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time to check the title deeds to every property so forms of return were delivered to every owner and occupier requiring information regarding ownership and rents, and this information checked by oral enquiry had to suffice for the completion of the list.

There were about 5,300 rateable properties to be assessed in the Town of Vacoas-Phoenix and to complete this work in the short time available was beyond the capacity of the Valuation Office. Temporary staff were recruited but it was necessary to make do with untrained personnel. This meant that rule of thumb methods of valuation had to be relied on to an undesirable degree, but the work has proceeded satisfactorily and defects in the valuation list can be corrected by current amendments after the list has come into force.

Public Assistance

Outdoor Relief

The basic organisation for the registration, investigation and adjudication of applications for outdoor relief, remained the same as in previous years.

New applications received in 1963 amounted to 33,601 of which 19,644 were approved, while 18,056 allowances were withdrawn from the register during the year. The total number of cases on roll at 31st December, 1963 was 23,963 as compared with 22,375 at the end of the preceding year.

The basic scale rates to which reference was made in previous reports remained unaltered during 1963.

The total amount disbursed on Outdoor Relief in 1963 was Rs 7,566,864.41, the average regular and casual monthly payments being Rs 25.56 and Rs 17.15 as against Rs 26.09 and Rs 20 for 1962.

Relief in kind

The number and cost of blankets and flannel under-garments distributed to needy recipients of outdoor relief during the winter season in 1963 as compared with 1962, are as under:—

Year	*Blankets Units*	*Flannels Units*	*Total cost Rs*
1962 ...	5,063	1,767	22,829.65
1963 ...	6,439	1,698	22,579.48

In addition to these comforts, 1,230 pairs of spectacles and 80 lenses to the value of Rs 27,082 were also issued to recipients of Outdoor Relief and to Old Age Pensioners in 1963 on the recommendation of the eye specialist.

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Workrooms

Work in lieu of relief continued to be provided in the workrooms throughout the year to 49 persons mostly widows with large families. Their total earnings for the year on a piece-rate basis amounted to Rs 56,166.60 as follows:—

	Rs
Lingerie (out-workers)	11,305.60
Sergerie and Uniforms (in-workers) ...	44,861.00
TOTAL ...	56,166.60

The average monthly earning was therefore Rs 95.52 per relief worker.

Indoor Relief

There was one addition in 1963, the Rosie Lememe Home, to the number of institutions providing indoor treatment.

The number of inmates in the infirmaries and orphanages at the end of 1963, including harmless mental patients transferred from the Brown Sequard Hospital, was as under:—

	Male	*Female*	*Total*
Infirm ...	349	346	695
Orphans ...	73	103	176

as compared with 676 infirms and 178 orphans at the end of the preceding year.

The capitation grant for both adults and children in the charitable institutions continued to be Rs 1.20 per head per day.

Outings to the sea-side for the benefit of the inmates were arranged as in the previous years and were, as usual, very much appreciated.

Frequent visits were paid in 1963 to the various institutions by members of voluntary organisations who distributed sweets and cigarettes to inmates and provided them with musical and other entertainment.

Old Age Pensions

An old age pension of Rs 22 per month is payable to persons who qualify for such under the Old Age Pensions Ordinance, 1951, as subsequently amended. 3,982 new cases were dealt with during the year of which 3,797 were granted. The cases turned down were mainly those in respect of persons not fulfilling the required statutory conditions in regard to residence. The number of old age pensioners at the end of 1963 was 30,326 and the total disbursements during the year amounted to Rs 8,013,820 as against Rs 7,720,270.80 in 1962.

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Repatriation

Expenditure of Rs 29,447.67 was incurred in 1963 on the repatriation of 17 destitute Mauritians from abroad.

The number of repatriates on record at the end of 1963 was 111 and repayments amounting to Rs 8,332.26 were effected by liable parties during the year.

Relief to destitute Mauritians abroad

During the year, there were eight persons in receipt of "hardcore" relief. The total amount disbursed in 1963 was Rs 33,128 as against Rs 8,669.24 the previous year. The increase is attributable to an increase in the rates of relief payable.

Family Allowance

All Mauritian families with three children under 14 years of age are, under the scheme, eligible for Rs 15 per month, provided they are not subject to Income Tax. Persons not born in the colony are also eligible. The number of beneficiaries which was 43,978 at the inception of the scheme stood at 57,463 at the end of 1963 and the amount paid during the year was Rs 9,422,285.

The number of beneficiaries of Family Allowance at Rodrigues at the end of December, 1963 was 1,699, the total amount paid being Rs 256,080.

SOCIAL WELFARE

The Social Welfare Department was created in July, 1953, and was made responsible for social welfare and the Probation service which were previously the responsibility of the Public Assistance and the Judicial Departments. The Department works in close co-operation with other Government departments and voluntary social service organizations and is associated with the Ministry of Health and Reform Institutions.

In June 1958, a Social Development Board was set up to replace the Social Welfare Advisory Committee, its term of reference being to advise the Minister on all social development matters which he may refer to the Board, and to enlist the co-operation and co-ordinate the activities of all voluntary organisations in the field of social welfare.

Social Welfare Centres

There were 22 Social Welfare Centres, built or rented by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund Committee, in the rural districts. The first Government Social Welfare Centre built at Roche Bois on the outskirts of Port Louis was formally opened on 25th May, 1961. These 23 Centres play an important part in

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Inauguration by the Chief Minister of Social Welfare Centre built at Triolet
by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund Committee.

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the development of community activities and in the general social education of the people in the rural areas. They also provide certain medical facilities. A maternity and child welfare service is attached to each centre and milk is distributed free while doctors, paid by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund Committee, attend to expectant and nursing mothers reporting to the centre. Arrangements have also been made for the provision of a midwifery services, 2 midwives have been attached by the Medical Department to each of 20 centres and in the remaining 3, the midwifery service is run under the technical supervision of the Medical Department out of funds provided largely by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund.

In all villages where they exist, social welfare centres are the focal points for afternoon and evening activities. Indoor games, sports, and listening to the radio are the main activities. In some centres there are formal literary classes, supplemented from time to time by debates and lectures. Film shows by mobile cinema units are a regular feature at each centre.

Agricultural demonstration plots have been set up at some social welfare centres with a view to teaching the local farmers how production can be increased by the adoption of modern methods of cultivation. Vegetable growers are also encouraged to organise themselves into Farmers' Clubs.

Needlework and dressmaking classes are held at each centre for the benefit of the village girls.

Canteens, where non-alcoholic drinks are sold at a reasonable price for consumption on the premises, have been set up with a view to combating the evils of alcoholism.

The centres are managed by local committees, and conferences grouping the chairmen of these committees are held from time to time under the chairmanship of the Social Welfare Commissioner to co-ordinate the various welfare activities.

Welfare Months

To stimulate community activities the holding of welfare months at social welfare centres has proved to be a successful technique. During the month chosen, a health exhibition is held at the centre where officers of departments such as Agriculture, Health, Education, and Social Welfare give lectures and demonstrations to the people, drawing their attention to the problems of the village and suggesting solutions. Local women's associations, boys' clubs, co-operative societies and other welfare organizations are closely associated in the holding of these welfare months.

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Women's Welfare

The development of women's associations is being encouraged, especially in the rural areas. The aim of these associations is to bring the women together to learn things which will be of help in their homes, to improve conditions in the village, and to develop a spirit of friendliness, co-operation and initiative. There were 90 associations registered with the Social Welfare Department at the end of 1963.

Most of these associations run a sewing class for the benefit of the girls of the village and there is also a fortnightly sewing class held by a dressmaker employed by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund. In some places a handicraft class is held.

Instead of a central exhibition of hand works, there was during the last months of the Year a sale-exhibition of works organised on a regional basis.

Voluntary Workers' Conference

The Social Welfare Department organises from time to time conference of voluntary workers to discuss ways and means of developing the rural areas and raising the standard of living.

Anti-spitting Campaign

An island-wide anti-spitting campaign lasting a month was started in July 1960. Its result has been most encouraging as it has brought home to the general public the danger of indiscriminate spitting. In 1963 an intensive campaign of one month was carried out in May on the lines of the one organised in April 1961.

Treatment of Offenders

The probation system introduced in the Island in 1946 has made satisfactory progress. Probation applies to both juveniles and adults and it is worthy of note that more adults than juveniles pass through the hands of Probation Officers. A certain amount of social work connected with the Courts (e.g. settling matrimonial disputes, handling of difficult children), is also undertaken by Probation Officers, many of whom have been trained in the United Kingdom.

The Probation Service pays particular attention to the prevention of delinquency. One means adopted is to urge youths in villages to take advantage of the amenities available in social welfare centres and thus put their leisure to profitable use.

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Probationers are required to report to Probation Officers in social welfare centres, where these exist, instead of going to the Court. In a Welfare Centre the Probation Officer can spend more time with the individual delinquent and is in a better position to enforce rehabilitation measures than would otherwise be possible.

The first Probation Hostel for boys was opened in May, 1954. It is non-denominational and is managed by a representative committee. A new Probation Hostel building, much larger than the former one, but set up on the same site at Curepipe, was completed in March 1961. It can accomodate 20 boys. There were 17 boys at the end of the year in the hostel: they were regularly employed outside the hostel, half of their earnings going towards their keep. Voluntary workers help the management in regard to the educa tion and health of the inmates.

The Warden of the Hostel is a fully trained Senior Probation Officer and his wife is acting as the House-mother.

In the field of after-care, Probation Officers help with the rehabilitation of juveniles released from the Industrial School and from Borstal.

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Chapter 8: Legislation

Forty Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council and assented to by the Governor during the year 1963. The most important of these Ordinances which deal principally with matters of domestic concern are:—

The Regulation of Wages and Conditions of Employment (Amendment) Ordinance

(No. 2 of 1963)

This Ordinance provides that a minimum wage board or wages council may be composed of independent persons only or of independent persons and of such other persons as may have consented to represent employees or workers. The board or council may further consult any organisation or person claiming to represent employees or workers.

The Pensions (Amendment) Ordinance

(No. 4 of 1963)

This Ordinance, which was prepared on the advice of the Secretary of State, amends the definitions of " public service " and " scheduled government ". This had become necessary as a result of *(a)* the replacement of the East Africa High Commission by the East African Common Services Organisation, *(b)* the Eastern Africa Court of Appeal Order in Council, 1961, and *(c)* the British Caribbean Court of Appeal Order in Council, 1962.

The Civil Code (Amendment) Ordinance

(No. 7 of 1963)

This Ordinance has implemented the recommendations of the Civil Laws Revision Committee as regards the modernisation of our law on adoption and " legitimation adoptive ".

The new provisions have been borrowed from the modern French law which has, however, been modified in certain respects to suit local requirements.

The Court of Civil Appeal Ordinance

(No. 8 of 1963)

This Ordinance provides for the setting up of a Court of Civil Appeal to hear appeals from judgments and orders of a Judge sitting alone in the exercise of his original civil jurisdiction, which

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has been increased by the provisions of the Courts (Amendment) Ordinance, (No. 9 of 1963).

Formerly, all civil matters were decided by one or two judges (according to the monetary value of the subject matter of the litigation). And, except where appeal lay to Her Majesty in Council, their decision was final.

The Courts (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 9 of 1963)

As is stated under the preceding heading, the main object of this Ordinance is to give to a Judge sitting alone unlimited jurisdiction in all civil cases. The Chief Justice may, however, *proprio motu* or on application made, direct that a case be tried by two or three judges having regard to the magnitude of the interests at stake or the importance or delicacy of the issues involved. And a further guarantee is provided by the setting up of the Court of Civil Appeal (Ordinance No. 8 of 1963).

The Civil Status (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 13 of 1963)

This Ordinance provides that all civil status registers, in original and duplicate, dating after the year 1810 shall be in the custody of the Registrar General whereas all such documents dating before the year 1811, and which are of great historical value, shall be transferred to the Archives Department.

The Employment and Training Ordinance
(No. 14 of 1963)

The provisions of this Ordinance, while incorporating those of the Employment Exchange Ordinance, 1947, have been partly borrowed from the Employment and Training Act, 1948. The Minister of Labour and Social Security is empowered to provide such facilities and services as he may deem expedient *(a)* to assist persons in obtaining suitable employment, *(b)* to help employers in the recruitment of employees and *(c)* to promote full employment.

The Ministry of Finance (Integration) Ordinance
(No. 17 of 1963)

This Ordinance provides for the integration of the Accountant General's Department with the Ministry of Finance.

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The Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources (Integration) Ordinance
(No. 18 of 1963)

The provisions of this Ordinance relate to the integration of the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, the Department of Agriculture and the Forests Department.

The Development (General Purposes) Loan Ordinance
(No. 19 of 1963)

This Ordinance provides for the raising in the United Kingdom of a loan not exceeding a total of twenty seven million rupees for the purposes of the Mauritius Development Programme for 1960-65 and any extension of that programme.

The Investment in Mauritius Government Securities Ordinance
(No. 20 of 1963)

This Ordinance amends the law relating to the investment of funds in Mauritius Government securities so as to enable Mauritius to undertake, in relation to any future London Market loans, the conditions governing their issue.

The Electricity Loan (International Bank) Ordinance
(No. 23 of 1963)

The Electricity Loan (International Bank) (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 29 of 1963)

These two Ordinances empower the Government of Mauritius to borrow from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development a sum not exceeding seven million dollars. The money borrowed will be re-lent to the Central Electricity Board and applied to capital expenditure of the Board in respect of the implementation of its reconstruction and development programme.

The Customs Tariff (Amendment) Ordinance
(No. 25 of 1963)

This Ordinance validates resolutions of the Legislative Council, the effect of which is to repeal and replace Part I of the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1954, which deals with the rates of Customs duties applicable to goods imported or exported from the Colony.

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The Security of Employment (Sugar Industry) Ordinance
(No. 28 of 1963)

This Ordinance applies to workers in the sugar industry and to employers engaged in the cultivation of sugar cane on land totalling more than 25 arpents in area. It entitles a worker who has worked on at least seventy per cent of the number of working days during which the employer was harvesting his crop to be offered employment during the inter crop season. The Minister of Labour and Social Security and the Magistrate, Industrial Court, are given certain powers in relation to the enforcement of this Ordinance.

The Central Electricity Board Ordinance
(No. 32 of 1963)

The law relating to the Central Electricity Board is amended and consolidated by this Ordinance. The membership of the Board is broadened and a whole time Chairman is to be appointed. Various other provisions deal, *inter alia*, with the delegation of the Board's powers, the manner in which the Board may invest, the preparation of estimates and the auditing of accounts.

The Termination of Contracts of Service Ordinance
(No. 33 of 1963)

This Ordinance, the provisions of which shall apply to such categories of employers and workers as the Governor may from time to time, by order, direct, makes further and better provision for the termination of contracts of service. It empowers any official of the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, and the Magistrate, Industrial Court, to intervene in case an employee feels he has been dismissed without justification, and provides for the payment of severance allowances in certain cases.

The Development Bank of Mauritius Ordinance
(No. 34 of 1963)

The object of this Ordinance is to establish a Development Bank for Mauritius, which will take over from the Mauritius Agricultural Bank such of its activities as were not transferred to the Mauritius Housing Corporation by Ordinance No. 36 of 1962. The Development Bank will, in addition and generally, be the instrument for Government's policy of facilitating the industrial, agricultural and economic development of the Colony.

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The Cyclone and Drought Insurance Fund (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 35 of 1963)

The main purpose of this Ordinance is to provide for the payment by the Mauritius Sugar Syndicate, out of the proceeds of the 1963 sugar crop, of a special levy of twelve million rupees to build up the Fund.

The Mauritius Agricultural Marketing Ordinance (No. 38 of 1963)

This Ordinance establishes an Agricultural Marketing Board. The Board will provide or ensure the provision of efficient marketing facilities for all controlled products at fair and reasonable prices and it may generally deal in controlled products, stabilise production and prices, and regulate the standards of quality of such products. The Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources may by order declare any product of the Colony or any imported product to be a controlled product, and fix the price at which the Board may buy and sell any such product.

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Chapter 9 : Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

The laws of Mauritius are basically the old French Codes: the Civil Code, the Penal Code, the Code de Commerce and the Code of Civil Procedure, to which a number of amendments have been made from time to time to suit local conditions.

The Bankruptcy Law, the Company Law, the Law of Evidence and the Law of Criminal Procedure are, however, almost entirely based on English law. A number of imperial enactments are made applicable to Mauritius e.g. The Merchant Shipping Acts and other matters governed by Orders in Council. A large number of local enactments, based mostly on English Law or that of other colonial territories, govern a variety of subjects e.g. Labour Laws, Coinage, Official Secrets, Gambling Houses, Obscene Publications.

The highest judicial authority is the Supreme Court of the Colony of Mauritius and its Dependencies consisting of the Chief Justice, one Senior Puisne Judge and two Puisne Judges.

The Chief Executive Officer of the Supreme Court is the Master and Registrar who, in addition to other judicial functions, exercises jurisdiction in bankruptcy concurrently with the Judges of the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court is a superior Court of record and has the same powers (including equitable powers), authority and jurisdiction as the High Court of Justice in England. It exercises jurisdiction in divorce and probate matters, and also Admiralty jurisdiction in virtue of the Colonial Courts of Admiralty Act, 1890. It has powers of supervision over all the other Courts of the Colony and hears appeals from the Supreme Court of the Colony of Seychelles in civil matters.

Appeals lie to the Privy Council in certain cases from judgments of the Supreme Court.

The Judges of the Supreme Court preside over the Assizes, the verdict being returned by a jury of nine men, the decision requiring a majority of at least seven out of the nine members.

Since the 1st January, 1955, there has been set-up a Court of Criminal Appeal. The Chief Justice and the Judges of the Supreme Court are the Judges of that Court which is constituted by three Judges. That Court hears appeals from persons convicted before the Supreme Court.

Since the 9th of September, 1963, provision was made to give a Judge sitting alone unlimited original jurisdiction in all civil cases and a Court of Civil Appeal was set up. The Chief Justice

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and the Judges of the Supreme Court are the Judges of that Court which is constituted by two or three Judges as the Chief Justice directs, and which hears appeals from any judgment or order of a Judge sitting alone in the exercise of his original civil jurisdiction.

Since the 1st August, 1960, a Criminal Court, styled the Intermediate Criminal Court, has been instituted to replace with enlarged jurisdiction the Bench of Magistrates, and to ensure more expeditious trials of important criminal cases. The Intermediate Criminal Court has concurrent jurisdiction with the Assize Court to try cases of Involuntary Homicide, Arson, Bigamy and Procuring miscarriage which before the 1st August, 1960, were exclusively within the jurisdiction of the Assize Court. The Intermediate Criminal Court consists of three senior Magistrates. It has jurisdiction to try criminal cases occurring all over the island and has power to impose sentences not exceeding 5 years' penal servitude.

The District Magistrates of the Colony have jurisdiction in civil cases in which the subject matter does not exceed **Rs 3,000** in value. They hold judicial enquiries in cases of fire or accidental death, and preliminary enquiries in cases triable by the Assize Court. In addition they deal with certain matters in Chambers.

The summary jurisdiction of a District Court in criminal matters is vested in a District Magistrate who deals with the less serious offences and is empowered to sentence an accused party to imprisonment with or without hard labour, for a term not exceeding one year, and to a fine not exceeding Rs 1,000.

In addition to the three Magistrates who sit on the Intermediate Criminal Court there are now 12 Magistrates of whom one administers justice in Rodrigues and is also Civil Commissioner for that Dependency.

A Visiting Magistrate inspects each of the Lesser Dependencies once a year.

There is in addition an Industrial Court which is presided over by a Magistrate and which has exclusive jurisdiction—subject to appeal or review—in all labour disputes including workmen's compensation cases and matters arising out of factory legislation and employment of certain categories of servants and other employees whose annual salary does not exceed Rs 6,000.

Administrative control of the Magistracy which hitherto was vested in the Head of the Legal Department has, since 1945, been transferred to the Chief Justice.

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The majority of the civil cases brought before the District Courts concern claims for money, or possession of tenement, or ownership of land.

On the criminal side, most of the cases, other than petty breaches of the law, relate to offences involving fraud, e.g. larceny, embezzlement, forgery, or swindling, or offences against the person, e.g., wounds and blows, indecent acts and assaults, or breaches of the road traffic laws.

During the year 1963 fifteen cases were brought before the Court of Assizes.

There were 530 civil cases entered before the Supreme Court as compared with 596 in 1962. 708 cases were entered before the Industrial Court as compared with 853 in 1962. 187 cases were entered before the Intermediate Criminal Court and 4,822 Civil Cases and 23,297 Criminal Cases were heard by the District Courts.

POLICE

Functions

The functions of the Mauritius Police Force are prescribed by section 14 of the Police Ordinance, Cap. 312 of the Laws.

In addition to their primary task of maintaining law and order, the Police are responsible for the control of immigration and emigration, weights and measures, the issue of certain licences and the collection of the fees therefor, the supervision of licensed premises, and other extraneous duties.

Strength

The Police Force consists of a Commissioner of Police, and of such Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Constables as the Legislature may authorise from time to time. The authorised establishment of the Force at the 31st December, 1963, was 36 Officers and 1,199 other Ranks, inclusive of 31 Police Women 2 Accounting Machine Operators, its strength was 36 Officers and 1,182 Other Ranks including 30 Police Women and 2 Accounting Machine Operators. In addition a hundred privates of the Special (M) Force were seconded for duty with the Regular Police.

Organisation

The Commissioner of Police, assisted by the Deputy Commissioner of Police and other Officers, has his office at Line Barracks, Port Louis.

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The personnel of the Force is distributed between:

(a) Police Headquarters and the following Branches or Sections:

(i) The Forensic Science Laboratory
(ii) The Criminal Investigation Division
(iii) The Immigration and Passport Section
(iv) The Road Traffic Branch
(v) The Transport and Communications Section
(vi) The Training School and Reserve
(vii) The Band
(viii) The Railway Police
(ix) The Water Police
(x) The Pay and Quartermaster's Branch
(xi) The Rodrigues Police Detachment.

(b) Six Police Districts, controlling 48 stations and posts.

The Forensic Science Laboratory

This important institution was set up in 1938 and maintains a high degree of professional competence. It is under the charge of the Police Medical Officer, who is assisted by a suitably trained staff. The Laboratory deals with the scientific examination of exhibits, and other aspects of crimes requiring scientific investigation.

The Criminal Investigation Division

This Division, which has its Headquarters in Port Louis and field staff attached to every District, is responsible for the investigation of serious crimes and cases of a special nature such as frauds and defalcations. It is also responsible for collating the statistics of crime for the whole Island. To the Central C.I.D. Headquarters are attached the Finger Print and ***Modus Operandi Bureau,*** the Central Records of Habitual Criminals, the Firearm Licences Section and the Bicycle Registration Section.

Finger Print and Modus Operandi Bureau

During the year, 199 scenes of crime were visited by the Central C.I.D. Staff and articles bearing finger prints were brought to the Finger Print Office by the District Police in 154 cases. Decipherable prints were found on 244 cases and 32 identifications were made. In 12 cases finger prints were the sole evidence available against the accused parties. In 38 cases documents bearing finger prints were referred to the Finger Print Office and in 19 cases identity was established. The finger print slips of 19,249 criminals (Male and Female) are on record. The " Scene of Crime " collection contains 95 photographs of unidentified

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prints found at scenes of crime. The palm print collection contains 3,401 prints; 690 criminals are on the Findex System.

Photographic Section

The photographic work done by the section during the year was of valuable assistance: 10,479 photographs supplied by the section included 95 crime scenes and 139 scenes of fatal or serious accidents; 664 criminals were photographed and 7 dead bodies were photographed to assist identification; 408 photographs were also supplied for warrant cards issued to members of the Force, the Special (Mobile) Force and Special Constables.

Habitual Criminals

Supervision is maintained over habitual criminals and bad characters who are sentenced to police supervision by the Courts. There were 671 male Habitual Criminals in the Island, including 168 first offenders reconvicted during the year.

Firearms

Firearms are strictly controlled. The number of firearms licensed during the year was 5,715.

Handwriting

In conjunction with the Forensic Science Laboratory the C.I.D. carry out the examination of documents and the identification of handwriting and typewriting in relation to cases of forgery and kindred offences.

Other Duties of the C.I.D.

The Vice and Flying Squads of the C.I.D. among their other duties help throughout the Island to enforce the laws relating to Dangerous Drugs, Gambling, Prostitution, Illicit Distillation, Illegal transport and manufacture of rum and liquor, shop hours, distilleries, illegal slaughtering, private clubs etc.

Dangerous Drugs

A total of 180 cases under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance were prosecuted by the Police during the year. Details of these cases are:—

Nature of Offences	*No. of Cases*	*Quantity seized and forfeited*
Possession of gandia ...	144	22 kilogs and 611¼ grams of gandia leaves and 455½ grams of seeds
Cultivating of gandia plants	21	246 plants
Possession of opium ...	15	164 grams of prepared opium

Apart from above 35 kgs and 712¾ grams of gandia leaves 4½ grams of gandia seeds, 5 tons and 25,344 gandia plants, 500 grams of prepared opium and 4 kilogs of opium residue were secured.

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A case of possession of opium was detected on board a ship in Port Louis Harbour in which 5 kilogs of raw opium was secured by the Police. The case was disposed of by the Customs authorities.

The Immigration and Passport Section

During the year 3,132 passports were issued, 518 renewed and 179 visaed. 28 emergency certificates of nationality, 8 collective passports and 30 seaman's certificates of nationality and identity were issued and 55 forms of affidavit in lieu of passport were registered. The immigration staff attended 642 ships arriving in Port Louis and 901 aircrafts at Plaisance Airport. 17,848 persons entered the Colony, including 175 immigrants and 18,126 left, including 611 emigrants.

Road Traffic Branch

On behalf of the Road Traffic Licensing Authority, the Road Traffic Branch carry out driving tests, issue drivers' licences and examine motor vehicles for fitness and roadworthiness: 9,386 vehicles were tested and 5,173 persons took driving tests, of whom 2,464 were successful.

The number of registered motor vehicles increased from 14,446 in 1960 to 15,669 at the end of 1961, 16,673 at the end of 1962 and 18,092 at the end of 1963.

There were 2,527 accidents in 1963 as compared with 2,799 in 1962. The decrease in the number of accidents compared with the ever increasing volume of traffic on the road, results from the measures taken to ensure road safety and enforce the traffic laws, including widening and surface repairing of roads, increased mobile and foot patrols, regular speed checks, education of drivers and pedestrians as well as lectures to 80,060 school children, the maintaining of 209,886 feet of traffic lines, the setting up of more traffic signs, traffic islands and roundabouts.

Transport and Communication Branch

The Transport and Communications Branch has under its control a Transport Unit and a radio-telephone network. The Transport Unit consists of:—

Motor Cycles	... ...	30
Land Rovers	... ...	21
Vans and Light Trucks	...	8 (including 1 mortuary van
Prisoners' Vans	... ...	3
Lorries	... ...	9 (including a mobile canteen)
Motor cars	... ...	32 (including 25 W/T cars)
Cyclemasters	... ...	29 (including 26 Norman Light Motor Cycles)
Launch	... ...	1
Ambulances	... ...	2

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The radio-telephone network operates on VHF. At the Information or Control Room, situated at Police Headquarters, are one 15-watt and one 50-watt VHF transmitter-receivers: the first set controls directly the W/T cars operating in the town of Port Louis and the second set acts as a link with two other 50 watt V.H.F. repeater stations situated at Piton and Trou aux Cerfs. The former links Port Louis with the North of the Island while the latter acts as a link with other repeater stations installed at Rivière des Anguilles, Rose Belle and Central Flacq. At each of these repeater stations there is a 15 watt set working in conjunction with the 50-watt link and transmitting signals received through the 50-watt set to radio cars and stations in the neighbourhood and vice versa, thus giving island-wide coverage. 25 Police Stations are now equipped with static sets.

Apart from the post at Tombeau Bay all police stations and branches are linked by telephone. To enable rapid intercommunication between stations and districts, P.B.X's are installed at Police District Headquarters with the exception of Port Louis District where the telephones of all the Stations and Police Offices in Port Louis are linked to the P.B.X of Police Headquarters in Line Barracks.

Training

Recruitment for the Force is carried out by the Police Service Commission.

The Training School, which is a residential institution, aims at training members of the Force on the same lines as in the United Kingdom and at fostering in them such qualities as tact, patience, tolerance, good humour, initiative, and ability to rely on their own judgment and resources. Recruit training includes adequate instruction in laws, police duties and procedure, general knowledge, first aid, elementary drill, riot drill, physical training, self defence, and swimming. The recruits undergo theoretical and practical training, including station and street duties. Lectures on medical jurisprudence, first aid and hygiene are delivered by the Police Medical Officer.

The Band

The Mauritius Police Band, which was first established in 1921, is a full military brass band made up of trained musicians. In 1947 a dance orchestra was formed which has since been in regular demand at balls and social gatherings and for stage pro-

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ductions. The Band had 214 engagements, of which 63 were official and its total earnings amounted to Rs 29,646.20 which accrued to the Police Band Fund.

The Railway Police

An Inspector, One Sergeant and eight Constables are attached to the Railway Department as a special force to deal with offences committed on the Railway.

The Water Police

The Water Police are under the orders of the Superintendent of Police, Port Louis. The Unit comprises one Sergeant and 9 Constables. It is equipped with a 100 h.p. motor launch fitted with a R.T. set.

The duties consist in maintaining law and order in Port Louis Harbour; preventing persons from stowing away, assisting in the enforcement of Immigration and Quarantine laws; supervising the unloading of cattle and goods and assisting the customs in the prevention of smuggling. During the year the Water Police attended 520 ships which entered the harbour.

The Pay and Quartermaster's Branch

This Branch is divided into two Sections: the Pay Section and the Store Section, the latter under the special charge of the Assistant Pay and Quartermaster. The Pay Section is responsible for all the financial transactions and accounting of the Force and for the collection of inland revenue. The Store Section deals with indents for materials, the manufacture and issue of uniforms for all ranks, and the supply of stores and accoutrements to the Force.

The Rodrigues Police

The Rodrigues Police, under the orders of an Asistant Superintendent, is responsible for maintenance of law and order in the dependency. The authorised establishment is one Officer and 31 other ranks. (Note: The Island of Rodrigues is situated approximately 300 miles east of Mauritius).

Special Constabulary

In accordance with Section 47 of the Police Ordinance (Cap. 312) Special Constables may be appointed at any time. In 1963 the approved strength was 30 Officers and 200 other ranks.

First Aid: St. John Ambulance Association

Courses of instruction in First Aid are given to members of the force, the Government Fire Services, pupils of the Royal

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The Mauritius Police Band at a Tattoo in 1963.

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College and Municipal Fire Brigade. All lectures are delivered by Medical Officers or qualified lay lecturers. 675 members of the Force are qualified and hold the St. John's First Aid Certificate.

A Mauritius Police Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, the Municipal Fire Brigade and the Royal College Cadet Division are registered at the Overseas Headquarters in the United Kingdom.

Games, Recreation and Welfare

As much time as possible is devoted to the playing of games and to recreation generally. The Force possesses good football, basket ball, volley ball and hockey teams. Inter-district and friendly matches with local teams are frequently played. Boxing and swimming are practised.

The Officers, Inspectorate, N.C.Os, Constables and Police Women, each have their own mess and recreation rooms. A well-stocked canteen is open to all ranks of the Force. The Police Band contributes to official and demi-official functions in the various messes and institutions of the Force.

A library and reading room is open daily to members of the Force and to public subscribers. Books, reviews, and newspapers are regularly imported and are circulated throughout the Island and Rodrigues among members of the Force. The stock of English and French Books in the library is 9,038.

A Police Federation of all ranks from Chief Inspector to Constable advises on matters concerning the welfare and efficiency of its members, other than matters of discipline and promotions affecting individuals.

Honours and Awards

The Colonial Police Medal was awarded to 3 members of the Force.

The Colonial Police Long Service Medal was awarded to 4 members of the Force, the 1st clasp to 7 members and the 2nd clasp to one member.

Offences

The number of offences reported to the Police in 1963 was as follows:—

Crimes	...	953
Misdemeanours	...	16,684
Contraventions ...	...	22,617
TOTAL	...	40,254

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PRISONS

The principal duty of the Prisons Department is to maintain in safe custody the offenders delivered to its care. Subject to this, every possible effort is made to establish in them the will to lead an honest and useful life on release, and to fit them to do so through trade and character training.

There are four institutions in Mauritius dealing with persons received from the Courts:—

(a) Central Prison, Beau Bassin, which includes two Sections for adult female prisoners and industrial school girls respectively.

(b) Richelieu Rehabilitation Centre.

(c) Borstal Institution, Grand River North West.

(d) Industrial School, Barkly, Beau Bassin.

Central Prisons

Beau Bassin Prison consists of two three-storey blocks with a capacity to accomodate about 600 prisoners in separate cells. With the enlarged cells about 1,800 prisoners can now be accommodated in case of emergency.

A Remand Block having 6 large communal and 6 separate cells with a capacity to accommodate 50 prisoners.

All prisoners are received and discharged at the Reception Centre where separate cubicles are provided for bath and change of clothes.

The other buildings consist mostly of Workshops where the following trades are taught: Carpentry and cabinet-making, shoe-making, tailoring, tinsmithy, blacksmithy, basketry. Prisoners also carry out a concrete block making industry, the erection of new buildings and maintenance of existing ones.

There is also a hospital ward where all sick prisoners are treated. In the event of serious illness the case is referred to a public hospital. The Prison Medical Officer visits daily.

Places of worship are provided for all denominations. Work on the erection of a new Roman Catholic Chapel started during the year.

Female prisoners are admitted direct at the Female Prison.

A legal advisers' room and a committee meeting room are now provided in the former administrative headquarters located in the Central Prison.

The new Prison Headquarters built entirely by prison labour was completed and occupied in July.

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A new process to improve the quality of bread baked at the prisons was approved by the Prison Medical Officer.

Within the men's prison at Beau Bassin there are six yards where prisoners can associate for meals and leisure.

The classification and segregation arrangements are as follows:

(a) Star Class	... ...	No. 3 yard
(b) Trainable Ordinaries	...	No. 4 yard
(c) Short Term Ordinaries	...	No. 2 yard
(d) Long Term Ordinaries	...	No. 1 yard
(e) Young Prisoners	... ...	No. 5 yard
(f) Remands and Trials	...	No. 6 yard

The classes are kept segragated as far as possible while at work. There is also in operation a grade system whereby a prisoner may by good behaviour pass succeessively from Probationary to 3rd, 2nd, and 1st Grade, each grade carrying certain privileges such as extra books, longer time in association, participation in games and outdoor sports activities, working without direct supervision.

A scheme whereby long term prisoners who have reached special grade will be allowed association up to 8 p.m. was under consideration at the end of the year.

The hobbies and Handicraft scheme is operating satisfactorily. Prisoners and inmates of all reform institutions voluntarily spend their leisure hours on various forms of handicrafts and hobbies with the aim of encouraging their creative instinct and keeping their mind occupied usefully. Two-thirds of the net profits realised go to the prisoners to give them the incentive to volunteer for these activities in their spare time.

Young prisoners undergo Physical Training under a trained instructor every morning. Voluntary education classes are also held each evening under a qualified school Head Teacher attached to the department.

A cinema show is given inside the prison once a week, when films of topical and educational interest are shown. During week-ends the football pitch outside the prison is used by prisoners. Volley-ball and Basket-ball are also practised inside the prison walls after labour.

A number of public-spirited men and women continued to act as unofficial visitors to the Central and Female Prison. Each has a panel of prisoners whom he visits frequently.

The Female Prison was opened in May 1961. It adjoins the Central Prison but has a separate entrance,

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Industrial School girls are now detained in that part of the Female Prison declared an Industrial School within the meaning of the Ordinance.

The Female inmates, who are very few in number, are taught sewing and gardening. Other crafts are also taught by unofficial visitors.

Discipline

During 1963, 2 reports were dealt by the Prison Board and 510 by the Commissioner and Superintendent of Prisons. There has been a general improvement in discipline during the past years and the earning scheme is largely responsible for this.

Borstal Institution

The Borstal Institution which provides minimum security has accommodation for about 125 youths. It is run on the lines of a United Kingdom Borstal Institution.

The inmates are classified into " ordinary ", " probationary " and " special " grades; there is also a penal grade for boys under punishment. Apart from being classified according to statutory requirements, the inmates are grouped into four houses, named after prominent persons, viz., Remy Ollier, Labourdonnais, Newton and d'Epinay, with a view to fostering in them a spirit of competition. As far as possible the selection is made in such a way that the good element predominates in each house.

A scheme whereby lads would be granted home leave during their training with a view to re-establish home relations and to afford them the opportunity to meet prospective employers was implemented during the year and the response of the lads has been most encouraging.

With a view to encouraging the inmates, after their release, to save money, a system has been introduced whereby the total earnings standing at the credit of an inmate prior to his release are deposited in the Post Office Savings bank and the savings book handed over to him on his release.

The lads receive daily instruction in carpentry, tinsmithing, tailoring, cooking and gardening. A Chain Link Fencing industry was in operation. Compulsory educational classes run at elementary levels with emphasis on English, French and Arithmetic are held under a qualified teacher. Physical training classes are also held daily.

Some 12 boys volunteered every week end to work in their spare time with a voluntary organisation called the " Compagnons Batisseurs ".

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An Association with similar aims and objects to that of the Scout movements was set up in 1961. The movement which contributes tremendously towards character training has so far met with success.

Educational films are shown and explained to the lads weekly and outdoor games are organised each evening. Lads of the special and probationary grades go to the seaside once a week to enjoy swimming. Football matches are played against outside teams.

During the year outings were organised at week ends. The Annual Camp was held at Pointe Jerome during the month of September.

The lads put on their usual Christmas Show on the 30th of December with the help of members of the staff.

A Borstal Visiting Committee meets monthly and, among other things, decides on questions of release.

Industrial School

The school has accommodation for about 200 boys and is run on the lines of an English Approved School. Boys up to the age of 18 years are catered for. The senior and junior boys are divided into houses named after prominent persons, but they are separately accommodated. A monthly " house " competition is run with points for conduct, cleanliness and upkeep of the house gardens.

All junior boys attend school daily for four hours under qualified teachers and receive primary school instruction up to the 5th standard. After the 5th Standard, boys who are still of school age attend an ordinary Government primary school. Senior boys who are illiterate attend school three evenings a week.

All boys do daily physical training under a qualified instructor and in addition take part in organised games. Films of educational value are shown and commented on by the Visual Education Officer and lectures on citizenship, forestry, electricity and animal husbandry have been given by experts who have offered their services to help the boys. Instruction in tinsmithing, brushmaking, shoemaking, carpentry, cooking and gardening is given to the boys in accordance with their aptitudes.

The Annual Camp was held at Pointe Jerome during the second half of September.

A Sports day for the inmates was held on 19th December.

An Industrial School Visiting Committee meets monthly and among other things, decides on questions of release.

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Richelieu Rehabilitation Centre

The Rehabilitation Centre at Richelieu designed for long and short terms offenders was opened on the 1st of July 1958. Most of the buildings have now been completed and brought into use. By the end of the year the population at the Centre was 53.

On the 27th June a commemorative stone marking the establishment of the centre was unveiled by His Excellency the Governor.

The response to the additional responsibility put on the inmates by the introduction of the " Camp Captain " and " leader System " has been most encouraging.

More land has been brought under cultivation and four acres of land planted with fruit trees.

Animal farming is now firmly established at the Centre. My thanks go to the Director of Agriculture for the unreserved co-operation in the establishment of the above project. This not only provides a training to the inmates in the elements of simple animal rearing but it is also a source of revenue.

The Centre is provided with a 12 H.P. ' Lister ' Generating plant capable of supplying electricity to all buildings in case of interruption of the normal supply.

Another stone crusher was installed at Richelieu Rehabilitation Centre during the year. The stones are now crushed at the Centre to feed the block-making and building industries with macadams .

All the dormitories are provided with canvas beds and lockers, a W.C. is installed in each dormitory for night use.

The Kitchen is provided with four Alfa Pressure Cookers, Concrete swills and tables, modern washand basins with taps and a provision store.

The dining room adjoins the kitchen and works on the " Cafeteria " system as in the United Kingdom.

Religious and educational facilities are afforded to the inmates. At Christmas with the help of the staff, they put up a variety show much enjoyed by the visitors.

Population

The daily average population for the year under review was as follows:—

Central Prison	341·9
Richelieu Rehabilitation Centre ...	86·4
Borstal Institution	72·2
Industrial School	85·9

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Chapter 10: Public Utilities and Public Works

Central Electricity Board

Electricity

As the Island was not directly hit by cyclones during the year, development work proceeded without any set-back. Many villages were connected to the grid, such as Plaines des Papayes, Triolet, Goodlands, etc.

Cascade Cécile Hydro-Power Station was commissioned in September, and has started producing units. For Victoria Thermal Power Station is nearing completion and will be commissioned in 1964.

The Board has completed the 66 KV Trunk Line between Port Louis and Wooton, steel towers being used for its construction. In addition, the Board has carried out extensive system strengthening work with a view to reducing losses.

Consumers amounted in total to 62,412 at the end of the year, shewing an increase of 8,262 or 15.2 per cent over the previous year. Sales of electricity amounted to 65.1 million units, an increase of 7.5 million units, or 12.9 per cent on 1962. Units generated and exported amounted to 86.8 million units including purchases from sugar Estates.

The total installed capacity of the plant, and units generated during 1963, were as follows:—

	Kw		*Units*	
Hydro:—				
Eau Bleue	4,000		9,068,360	
Tamarind Falls	8,000		22,554,790	
Réduit	600		1,510,569	
Magenta	940		4,323,610	
Cascade Cécile*	1,000		836,080	
La Ferme	1,200		1,436,480	
Riche-en-Eau	200		965,420	
Bois Chéri	100		72,800	
		16,040		40,768,109
Thermal-C.E.B.:—				
St. Louis	16,000		29,522,390	
		16,000		29,522,390
Thermal-Sugar Estates:—				
St. Antoine	1,220		1,614,200	
F.U.E.L.	4,000		7,901,440	
Savannah	1,500		2,732,080	
Medine	1,500		3,075,120	
Belle Vue (Mauricia)	1,200		1,229,000	
		9,420		16,551,840
TOTAL ...		41,460		86,842,339

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WATER SUPPLIES

Domestic Water Supplies

The principal sources of domestic water supplies are Mare-aux-Vacoas, Grand River North-West (Port Louis), Piton du Milieu, La Nicolière and Rivière des Galets.

The Mare-aux-Vacoas water supply is derived from a storage reservoir of a capacity of 975 million cubic feet. The reservoir is situated at an elevation of 1,850 feet above sea level and serves about half the population of the island in the districts of Plaines Wilhems, Moka, Black River, part of Port Louis, and the upper parts of Grand Port and Savanne. Before distribution, the water is filtered through slow sand filters at an elevation of 1,640 feet above sea level and chlorinated. The supply to the higher parts of Plaines Wilhems and Grand Port-Savanne is pumped partly by hydraulic power and partly by electric power. The quantity supplied to domestic consumption for the year ending 30th June, 1963 averaged 12,700,000 gallons per day.

The Grand River North West water supply is derived from the river of that name at an elevation of about 250 feet above sea level. It is managed by the Municipality of Port Louis and serves exclusively the town of Port Louis with a population of about 120,000. The water is filtered and chlorinated before distribution. Works completed in 1961 provide for an increase of the supply to 13,000,000 gallons per day.

The Piton du Milieu Water Supply is derived from a reservoir of 110 million cubic feet, situated at an elevation of 1,435 feet above sea level and serves a population of about 150,000 inhabitants in the districts of Pamplemousses, Rivière du Rempart, Flacq, Moka and the lower parts of Grand Port and Savanne. The water is filtered through rapid sand filters at an elevation of 1,385 feet having a capacity of 4,000,000 gallons per day. The water is chlorinated after filtration.

The Piton du Milieu supply is supplemented in the districts of Pamplemousses and Rivière du Rempart by the La Nicolière Water Supply which provides 1,000,000 gallons per day derived from springs above La Nicolière at an elevation of 1,040 feet. The water is at present filtered through rapid sand filters and chlorinated. The filters were put in operation at the end of 1961. In the district of Savanne the Piton du Milieu supply is supplemented by Rivière des Galets, at an elevation of 825 feet, which provides 400,000 gallons per day. The water is filtered and chlorinated.

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The new Hydro-electric power station at Cascade Cécile opened by the Governor on the 20th September, 1963.

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Irrigation

Irrigation water is supplied, in the Black River district, from La Ferme reservoir and Magenta Canal and from La Nicolière reservoir in the districts of Pamplemousses and Rivière du Rempart. La Ferme reservoir, at an elevation of 450 feet above sea level, has a capacity of 417 million cubic feet and serves to irrigate at present 1,500 acres. Additional supplies are being derived from Mare-aux-Vacoas, Mare Longue and Tamarind Falls reservoirs by means of the Magenta Canal which irrigates a further 2,500 acres.

La Nicolière reservoir, at an elevation of 800 feet above sea level, has a capacity of 200 million cubic feet and serves to irrigate about 1,000 acres of land. The reservoir is linked to Midlands by the Midlands—La Nicolière Feeder Canal 17 miles long.

Hydro-Electric Power

Water for hydro-electric purposes is supplied from three reservoirs:

(a) the Mare-aux-Vacoas reservoir mentioned above;

(b) the Mare Longue reservoir of a storage capacity of 200 million cubic feet at an elevation of 1,900 feet;

(c) the Tamarind Falls reservoir of a storage capacity of 72 million cubic feet at an elevation of 1,625 feet above sea level.

The three reservoirs are situated in the catchment area of the Tamarind River and supply water to a power station situated at 960 feet below the Tamarind Falls reservoir. After going through this power station, water passes through the Magenta Canal for irrigation purposes in the Black River district.

Work on the hydro-electric project at Eau Bleue was started early in 1955 and completed in 1961. The scheme consists of an earth dam, of approximately 8.65 million cubic feet, providing a storage of 200 million cubic feet of water. The site of the reservoir is on River Eau Bleue, near Midlands. A fall of 600 feet is available between the reservoir site and Le Val where the power station is situated. The Reservoir and Power Station have been put into operation in 1961.

The power station has an installed capacity of 4,000 KW and 8,580,000 KWH units were generated from 1st July, 1962 to 30th June, 1963. A Feeder canal from Grand River South East to Eau Bleue Reservoir was completed in 1960 and the power output can further be increased to 13 million units by diverting other rivers into the reservoir. Electricity is also produced at La Ferme reservoir from the feeder channel over a fall of 400 feet.

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Public Works

In January, 1961, the former Public Works and Architectural Departments were integrated with the Ministry of Works under the control of the Minister of Works and Internal Communications. The Ministry is responsible for the maintenance and/or construction of (i) all Government works in connexion with water supplies, roads, bridges, quays and machinery at the Harbour and (ii) Government buildings.

The Ministry acts as Adviser to the other Ministries and Government Departments on matters connected with works.

Meteorology

The Meteorological Department provides for all climatological and weather services for the colony and for international requirements. Six main reporting stations regularly provide full observations from each of the four scattered groups of islands forming the Dependencies and from the airfield and the central plateaux in Mauritius. These observations are broadcast seven times daily to Africa, Asia and Australia. About 4,000 weather reports are collected each year from ships at sea.

The administrative services of the Meteorological Department and the climatological and upper air sections are located at the headquarters at Vacoas. In addition, a hurricane warning centre is operated there when a hurricane warning period is declared for either Mauritius or Rodrigues.

The main forecasting office is at Plaisance Airfield, 19 miles from Vacoas. The increase in both scheduled and non-scheduled air operations continued during 1963.

The forecasting office maintains a twenty-four hour forecast service. The surface weather maps, drawn four times daily cover, as far as possible, the whole of the Indian Ocean and surrounding continents between 15°N and 50°S. Upper air charts are drawn twice daily. Forecasts for aircraft flights to the African, Asian and Australian continents and for ocean going vessels, as well as for local purposes, are issued from the Plaisance office.

In addition to the main reporting stations the Department maintains or co-operates with other local authorities in maintaining, three minor reporting stations at Port Louis Harbour, Flat Island, and Peros Banhos Island, 250 rainfall stations, twenty sunshine recorders and eight recording anemometers to obtain records mainly required for local purposes. Although numerous and varied

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enquiries from local and overseas authorities were dealt with, the main emphasis in climatology has continued to be laid upon the requirements of agriculture, hydrology and constructional engineering.

Mauritius is a Member of the World Meteorological Organisation and also plays its part in other international organisations, such as the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy and the International Civil Aviation Organisation.

The Granary

The Granary, which was completed in 1933, is a two-storeyed building of ferro-concrete and brick and covers an area of 1½ acres. It adjoins a lighter-Quay, 389 feet long, served by six electrically-operated hoists which lift bagged grain from lighters at the quay to the top floor of the building, which is operated as a Customs transit shed. From the top floor grain is delivered by gravity chutes to the first and ground floors which are divided into twelve and six separate stores respectively. Other gravity chutes connect the first floor with the delivery yard at the rear of the building.

The Granary Ordinance (Cap. 64) prescribes that all grain (which includes rice, dholl, lentils, gram, peas and other cereals which may be declared grain for that purpose by Proclamation) shall be discharged from ships to lighters and conveyed to the Granary for storage. The Ordinance limits the amount of grain which may be stored elsewhere than at the Granary.

The building was designed and erected with the object of protecting grain against contamination and destruction by pests, particularly rodents, and all entrances, exits and personnel lifts are operated with this in view.

All grain is stored in the Granary in bags: there is no bulk storage. Pest infestation is prevented as far as possible by spraying insecticide by means of an apparatus provided for that purpose. To this may be added the dusting of the stores by means of *Malathion*, a new " insecticide " which has been recommended by the Agricultural Department. Measures against white ants and termites are carried out by a local firm under contract and stores are regularly fumigated by the Ministry of Health and Reform Institutions.

After allowing for passages necessary for the effective use of the disinfecting apparatus, storage capacity is sufficient for approximately 450,000 bags of grain.

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The Granary Department, which is responsible for the administration and maintenance of the building, is under the control of the Granary Superintendent who is also the Comptroller of Customs. Handling and stacking of grain is carried out by contract labour. During the year 1962-63, 69,900 tons of rice and 5,305 tons of other grain were handled.

Government Fire Services

The functions of the Fire Services are prescribed in Section 4 of the Fire Services Ordinance (No. 56 of 1953). In the District and Town of Port Louis, the Municipal Council is the responsible authority.

The Department comprises an administrative office in Port Louis and six fire stations at Curepipe, Rose Hill, Rivière des Anguilles, Mahebourg, Piton and Flacq; Quatre Bornes Fire Station was closed down on 30.4.63. On the 31st December, 1963, the staff was composed of 1 Controller (part time), 1 Office Supervisor, 1 Chief Officer, 1 Deputy Chief Officer, 2 Station Officers, 21 Sub Officers, 26 Leading Firemen, 157 Firemen and a clerical staff of six.

The number of fire calls attended to was 356, compared with 278 in the previous year. The loss caused by fire, excluding Port Louis district, was estimated at Rs 1,219,655. compared with Rs 603,817 in 1962. Appliances on fire calls covered 9,583 vehicle miles.

Within the area covered by the Service there were at the end of the year 1,136 fire hydrants, including 44 new hydrants installed during the year.

The number of requests for the attendance of firemen during performances of stage plays was 137 and the attendance fees collected during the year amounted to Rs 3,041.

In accordance with Regulation 4(2) of the Inflammable Liquids and Substances Regulations (Government Notice No. 179 of 1953) 21 certificates were issued by the Controller of Fire Services respecting the adequate protection of Filling Station premises against fire.

Fire appliances in nearly all Government buildings and cinema halls were tested.

Fourteen requests for pumping etc. on Town Councils and private premises were attended to and fees for these attendances amounted to Rs 787.32.

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The average cost per man in the Service during the year was Rs 5,515 while the cost of the Service per head of population (excluding the inhabitants of Port Louis) was Rs 1.92. The total revenue collected in 1962-63 was Rs 45,648.

The fees payable in respect of the attendance of the Fire Services at fires have been abolished by Ordinance No. 5 of 1963.

The mobile appliances with which the various fire stations were equipped included 10 fire engines, 4 large and 15 small trailer pumps, 8 water lorries, 2 cars, 2 vans, 1 lorry, 2 foam vans, 6 hose carriers, 3 Land Rovers, 1 " Scooter " motor cycle and 1 bicycle.

The Rodrigues Fire Station is under the Command of a Sub Officer assisted by a Fireman and a number of volunteers. The station is equipped with 1 Land Rover, 1 large and 2 small trailer pumps and 3 water trailers.

The report of Mr. H. M. Smith, C.B.E., M.I. Fire E, H.M. Chief Inspector of Fire Services, who came to the Colony in November 1962, was received early in 1963 and the recommendations therein contained are being implemented.

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Chapter 11 : Communications

Shipping

The Harbour of Port Louis can accommodate at any one time eleven ocean-going and five small vessels.

Vessels are normally moored at buoys in the harbour, though two quays are available, one of 492 feet and able to take a vessel of 30 feet draft and one of 390 feet for vessels of drafts up to 17 feet. Both coal and oil bunkers are available; there is a good supply of fresh water.

Regular cargo services are provided from the United Kingdom by the British and Commonwealth Shipping Company Limited, and from Continental and French Mediterranean ports by the French Companies *Messageries Maritimes*, the *Nouvelle Compagnie Havraise Peninsulaire* and the *Svedel Line*. A fortnightly cargo service from and to South Africa is operated by the AFRICAN Coasters.

The Dutch *Royal Interocean Line* vessels call at Port Louis regularly on the Far East, South Africa and South America service, thereby providing a regular passenger and cargo service to and from the Far East and South Africa. Passengers wishing to travel to the United Kingdom usually tranship from the Dutch vessels to the Union Castle Line at Durban. An alternative route is by the French Messageries Maritimes to Marseilles and from there by train to London.

A total of 528 vessels entered Port Louis harbour during the year with a total net registered tonnage of 1,624,816 Tons. Of these 134 were British, 76 Dutch, 96 French, 62 Japanese, 41 Norwegian, 20 Greek, 14 Malagasy, 23 South African, 11 Liberian, 8 Israeli, 7 Swedish, 8 U.S.A., 6 German, 5 Indian, 4 Panamanian, 5 Nationalist China, 1 Danish, 2 Irish, 1 Lebanese, 1 U.S.S.R., 1 Ethiopian, 1 Australian and 1 from New Zealand.

There are two small vessels on the local register. One of them is employed on services to the dependencies of Mauritius and the second, M.V. " Mauritius ", a 1,157 NRT cargo and passenger liner, is employed on runs to the dependencies, Madagascar, South and East Africa and Australia. These vessels have a combined net registered tonnage of 1,282.

During the year 4,461 passengers entered and 4,259 left the Island by sea.

Civil Aviation

Mauritius is served by the International airport situated at Plaisance, at the South East of the Island, some five miles from Mahebourg. It is managed and operated by the Department of

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A general view of Port Louis Harbour taken from the slopes of Signal Mountain.

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Civil Aviation of the Mauritius Government. There are no other airfields nor are there any locally registered aircraft or operators.

Scheduled air services are operated by the following airline Companies:—

Air France, which operates two services a week on the Paris-Mauritius route (one through Cairo, Nairobi, Dar-es-Salaam, Tananarive, Reunion and return and the other through Athenes Cairo, Nairobi, Majunga, Tananarive, Reunion and return), and an additional weekly service Tananarive-Mauritius *via* Reunion and return.

Qantas which operates a fortnightly service Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Cocos, Mauritius, Johannesburg and return,

South African Airways which operates a fortnightly service Johannesburg, Mauritius, Cocos, Perth and return, and

B.O.A.C. which operates a weekly service on the route London, Rome, Khartoum, Nairobi, Mauritius and return.

RAILWAYS

The public railway system of Mauritius (4'—8½" gauge) is operated by the Government. In accordance with the policy to close the railways, part of the railway track had been closed and was being removed during the year and there remained 25⅜ miles of track in use at the end of 1963. By law, heavy goods (manufactured sugar, fertilizers, coal and gunny bags) must be transported by the Government but certain estates and districts were exempted from the provisions of the law.

The deficit on the working of the railways for the financial year 1962-63 amounted to Rs 386,432.

Statistics for the financial year ended 30th June, 1963 are as follows:—

Length of line open to traffic	Miles	61
Goods Traffic :		
Sugar	Tons	368,775
Sugar Canes	Tons	944
General Merchandise	Tons	35,829
Goods Traffic Receipts :		
Sugar	Rs	2,793,565
Sugar Cane	Rs	1,274
General Merchandise	Rs	167,120
Train Mileage	Train Miles	98,105
Receipts per Train Mile	Rs	32.63
Expenditure per Train Mile	Rs	38.03
Goods Traffic :		
Sugar	Tons	34,588
General Merchandise	Tons	5,483
Goods Traffic :		
Sugar	Rs	217,213
General Merchandise	Rs	34,537
Number of road vehicles in service:		
10 lorries and 8 trailers		

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ROADS

Mauritius is provided with an extensive road system.

Some 813 miles of public main, branch and other roads suitable for motor traffic are maintained by the Ministry of Works and Internal Communications. District councils are responsible for unproclaimed roads. The Municipality of Port Louis and the Town Councils are responsible for roads in their respective areas.

The Ministry of Works is constantly improving the road system and in 1963 the mileage asphalted was increased from 521 to 554 miles.

ROAD TRANSPORT

There were 18,092 motor vehicles registered in the island in 1963 as compared with 16,673 in 1962 classified as:—

	Private Ownership	*Government Ownership*
Private Cars	9,640	50
Taxi Cars	1,284	—
Lorries	2,561	173
Buses	651	18
Motorcycles	1,621	65
Autocycles	40	—
Tractors and Dumpers ...	390	120
Jeeps	124	86
Vans	1,103	93
3-Wheelers	33	—
Road Rollers	19	11
Foam Tenders	—	3
Cranes	—	7
	17,466	626

The public bus fleets had increased to a total of 519 vehicles at the end of 1963. An average of 160,383 passengers travel daily by bus.

There were 3,624 goods vehicles in use in 1963—an increase of 109 over the preceding year's figure. They are used mainly for the transport of canes to factories and heavy goods to different parts of the island.

VEHICLE LICENSING

The quarterly licence duties payable in respect of motor vehicles are as follows:

	Rs	*c*
1. Motor cycles (with or without sidecar) :—		
(a) not exceeding five horse power	7	50
(b) exceeding five horse power, for each unit or part of a unit of horse power	1	50
2. Private Cars :—		
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	30	00
(b) exceeding ten horse power ... ... together with an additional amount of Rs 3.50 for each unit or fraction of a unit of a horse power in excess of ten.	35	00

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VEHICLE LICENSING—*Continued*

	Rs c
3. Taxis :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	27 00
(b) for every additional horse power or fraction thereof	2 00
4. Buses having a seating capacity for more than twenty passengers :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	153 00
(b) for every additional horse power or fraction thereof	2 00
Buses having a seating capacity for not more than twenty passengers :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	128 00
(b) for every additional horse power or fraction thereof	2 00
Buses having a seating capacity for not more than sixteen passengers :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	78 00
(b) for every additional horse power or fraction thereof	2 00
Buses having a seating capacity for not more than eleven passengers :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	48 00
(b) for every additional horse power or fraction thereof	2 00
Buses having a seating capacity for not more than seven passengers :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	38 00
(b) for every additional horse power or fraction thereof	2 00
5. Private Carrier's (other than tractors and trailers) :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	75 00
(b) exceeding ten horse power ... ... together with an additional fee of Rs 3.50 for each unit or fraction of unit of horse power in excess of ten.	87 50
(c) per metric ton of maximum gross weight or fraction thereof :—	
(i) where the horse power of the vehicle does not exceed ten horse power ...	15 00
(ii) where the horse power of the vehicle exceeds ten horse power	17 50
6. Public Carriers :—	
(a) not exceeding ten horse power	112 50
(b) exceeding ten horse power ... ... together with an additional fee of Rs 3.50 for each unit or fraction of a unit of horse power in excess of ten.	131 25
(c) per metric ton of maximum gross weight or fraction thereof :—	
(i) where the horse power of the vehicle does not exceed ten horse power ...	15 00
(ii) where the horse power of the vehicle exceeds ten horse power	17 50

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Payment of licence duty in respect of motor vehicles may be effected quarterly or yearly at the owner's option.

No licence fee is charged on a private car or motor cycle for a short stay in the Colony not exceeding one week.

Posts and Telegraphs

The Posts and Telegraphs Department is responsible for the postal and telegraph services of the Colony and operates the Post Office Savings Bank. It also acts as an agent for a number of Government departments in so far as the collection of certain revenue and the making of certain payments are concerned. The Money Order Service is available for nearly all parts of the world, and the British Postal Order Service for most Commonwealth countries.

The main Post Office is in Port Louis. There are besides 32 post offices and 44 postal agencies spread throughout the island and all classes of postal and telegraph business are transacted. Postal facilities are also available in Rodrigues.

Air mail connection with all parts of the world is maintained by means of the services operated by *Air France, British Overseas Airways Corporation, Quantas Empire Airways, South African Airways* and *Rhodesian Air Services.*

Air mail postage rates are charged on weight units of 5 grammes. The air mail postage rate to Europe and to India and Pakistan, the principal destinations of the Colony's outward correspondence, is 60 cents for 5 grammes. The Aerogramme or Air Letter Service operates to all destinations at the uniform rate of 35 cents.

The number of postal items handled during 1963 was approximately as follows:—

Air mail	3,891,500
Overseas surface mail	1,061,200
Inland mail	8,684,600

Mauritius is linked to the rest of the world by cables and by radio installations (including radiotelephones with most parts of the world) which are operated and maintained by Cable and Wireless Limited. The Company has an office, a cable station and a radio station in Port Louis, and a cable station and a radio installation in Rodrigues. The major part of the overseas telegraph traffic concerns Port Louis and outward and inward telegrams from or for the Capital are accepted, for transmission or delivery, direct by Cable and Wireless Limited. Elsewhere, overseas telegrams are received at post offices and transmitted over land lines

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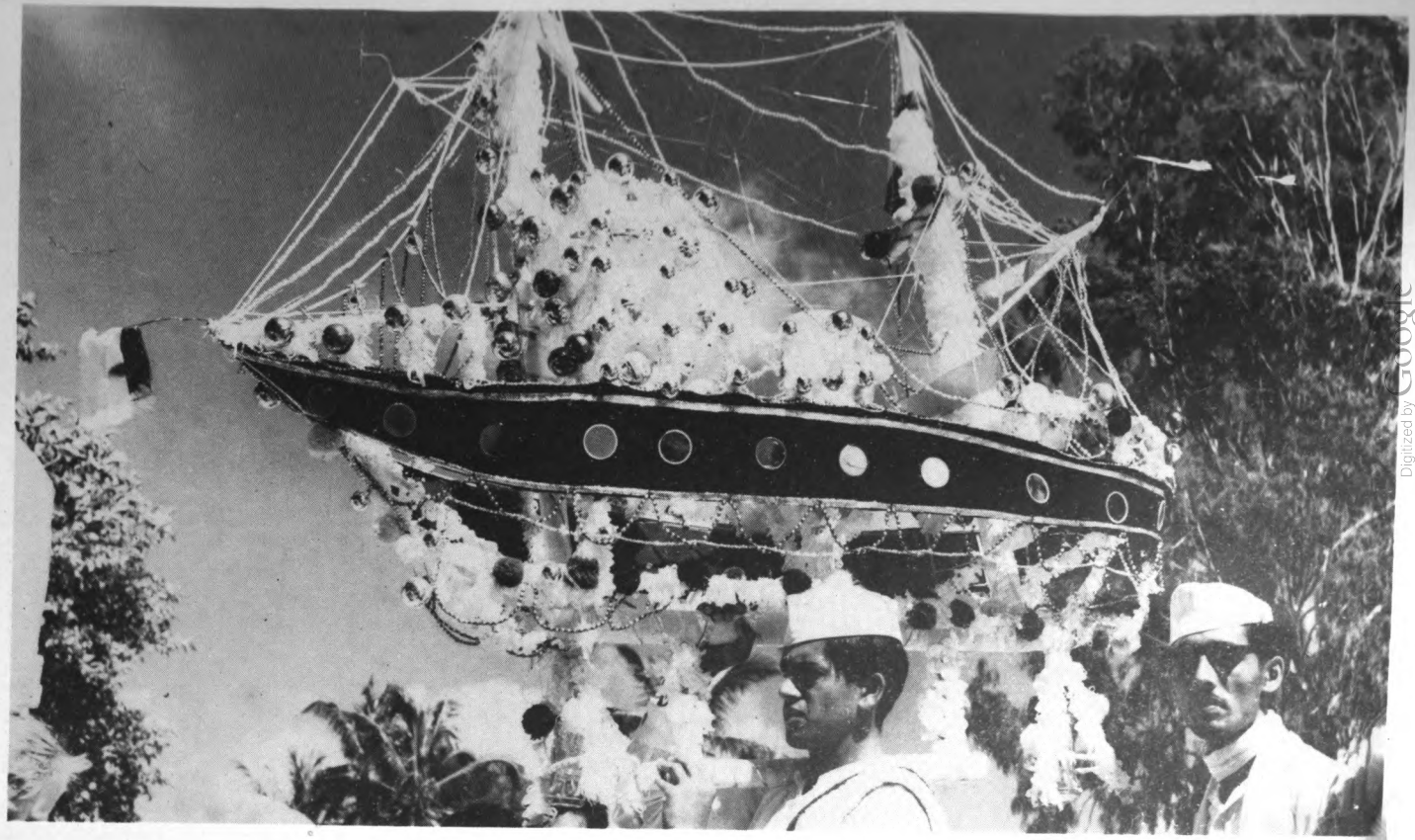
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Le Chaland beach, with the Hotel in the background.

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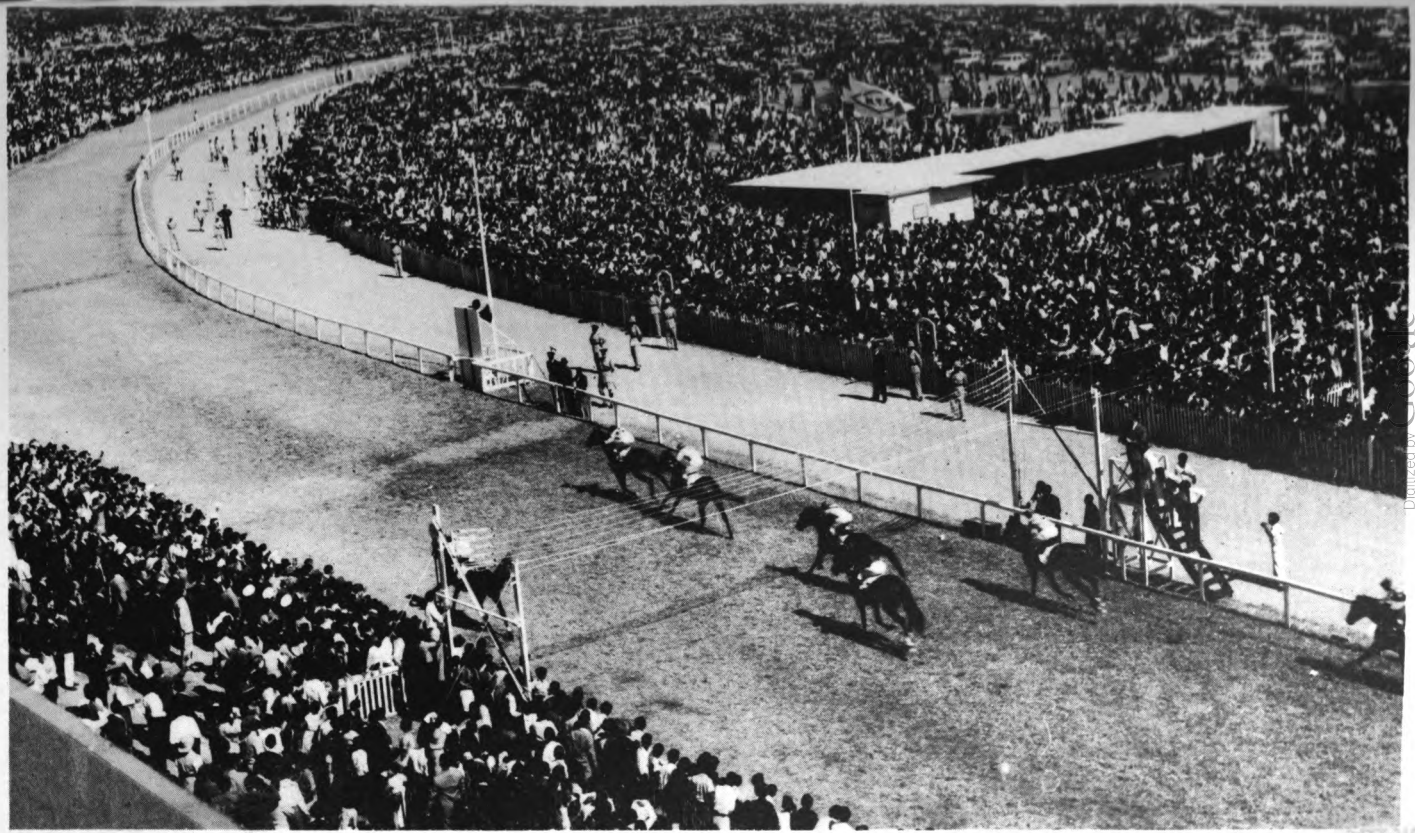
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Indian religious procession. Pilgrims on their way from Grand Bassin.

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Racing at the Champ de Mars, Port Louis. A general view on "Maiden Day", the local 'Derby'.

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Sport plays an important part in Mauritian life. An afternoon at the King George V Stadium, Curepipe.

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operated by the Posts and Telegraphs Department to the General Post Office in Port Louis, for outward transmission by Cable and Wireless; inward telegrams received by Cable and Wireless Limited are similarly transmitted by the General Post Office over the land lines to post offices for delivery.

With the extension of phonogram working to most areas, the Post Office Telegraph lines have been reduced from 153 miles to 46 miles only. The number of telegrams handled during 1963 was 11,710 as compared with 10,811 during 1962.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The island is served by 17 telephone exchanges located at the following centres:

Automatic Exchanges: Port Louis, Rose Hill, Moka, Rose Belle, Mahebourg, Centre de Flacq, Souillac, Pointe aux Sables, Rivière des Anguilles, Mapou, Pamplemousses, Plaisance, L'Escalier, Quartier Militaire and Nouvelle France.

Manual Exchanges : Curepipe and Vacoas.

At the close of the year there were 7,256 exchange lines and 11,185 telephone stations connected to the public network. The number of call units recorded during 1963 amounted to 9,306,468, compared with 6,845,706 during 1962 and 7,034,160 during 1961. The somewhat low figure for 1962 is attributed to the disruption caused by cyclone Jenny.

The Government Radiotelegraph Station at Vacoas maintains a 24-hour watch on the international maritime distress frequency of 500 kc/s and provides communication for shipping within a range of 800 miles of Mauritius. The station also provides communication with meteorological stations in the dependencies and intercepts meteorological broadcasts from countries bordering the Indian Ocean. During 1963, the station handled 46,877 messages, compared with 49,921 during 1962.

TOURISM

The Mauritius Government Tourist Office was set up in January, 1959, with the purpose of developing the tourist potentialities of the island and expanding the tourist industry in the interest of economic development. The Office is answerable to the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and External Communications which has specific responsibility for the development and promo-

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tion of tourism. A Tourist Advisory Board advises the Ministry on all matters connected with tourism. The members of the Board comprise representatives of air and shipping companies and of official and private organisations which can be of benefit to tourism.

A representative of the Office attended the XVIIIth General Assembly of the International Union of Official Travel Organisations. This technical and specialised body—which accepted the Mauritius Government Tourist Office as full member in 1960—consists of the government or official tourist organisations of 83 countries and enjoys consultative status with the United Nations. Mauritius was also represented at the United Nations Conference on Tourism and Travel which preceded the General Assembly. Its representative was included in the United Kingdom delegation.

In 1962, visitors to Mauritius numbered 5,875; this shows a rise of 32.6 per cent over the figure for the previous year and of 75.4 per cent over that for 1959 the year in which action was initiated to develop tourism. The expansion of tourist traffic brought an increase in earnings. Estimated expenditure by tourists amounted to Rs 3.2m compared with Rs 2.2m in 1961 and Rs 1.8m in 1959.

The introduction of the " Rhodesian Air Services " was a further step towards the development of travel to Mauritius. The representative of the Mauritius Government Tourist Office was a member of the Trade Delegation which visited Rhodesia at the joint invitation of the " Rhodesian Air Services " and the " Rhodesia and Nyasaland Tourist Board ". During his stay he had the opportunity to present the tourist attractions of the country on radio and television. Financial assistance was given to a local band which visited Southern Rhodesia as guest of this airline and of Jamieson Hotel in Salisbury. The band made several successful radio and television appearances.

An official mission from Madagascar consisting of the Minister of Information and Tourism, the Secretary of State and the Director of Malagasy National Tourist Office came to Mauritius to discuss the question of an Inter-Isles Association.

As in previous years, the press and broadcasting service continued to assist the Office in explaining its purposes and activities. In addition, frequent references to matters concerning tourism and news items helped to convince people of the potential tourist appeal of Mauritius and of the importance of tourism as a factor in the island's economy.

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In continuation of the policy to develop tourism, efforts were made to create tourist services and to improve accommodation—one of the essential requirements of the tourist industry. Existing establishments carried out extensions and renovations. Government has helped hotel concerns by loans and exemption from Customs duty on hotel equipment.

Scenic beauties and natural attractions constitute the main tourist assets. Recommendations were submitted to the authorities concerned for safeguarding the characteristics of the island's landscape, and preserving certain sites in planning areas. Over 3,000 flowering trees and shrubs were planted by the Forests Department along roads in coastal areas. Co-ordinated efforts on the part of the local bodies and the Office made it possible to improve certain areas in towns and villages.

Sub-committees on which the Office is represented considered plans for the development of selected beaches and the provision of suitable amenities for holiday-makers. A survey of public beaches was completed and, as a result, three beaches were opened to the public. The Office took part in discussions held by the Ministry of Local Government and Co-operative Development for the replanting of trees on public beaches. Every year during the holiday season a campaign is carried out against the pollution of beaches through the press and broadcasting service, village councils, primary and secondary schools.

Local and Overseas Publicity

Publicity was obtained through the help given to journalists, broadcasters, writers, photographers and visitors of note and by co-operation with official and private organisations. As occasion required, visits to places of interest and facilities for meeting personalities were arranged. In consequence of these visits, space was devoted to Mauritius in the " Daily Mail ", " Rhodesian Recorder ", " B.O.A.C. Review " and " B.I. News " and programmes presenting Mauritius were given over national broadcasting services. Information was supplied to the B.B.C. on request for building up programmes connected with Mauritius.

The Office contributed to the organisation of the Mauritius Stand at the Madagascar Fair in helping to arrange a course of instruction for the hostesses and to collect exhibits. Other work for this event included a programme of colour transparencies supported by a running commentary and the compilation of a catalogue of the exhibits. Mauritius was featured in exhibitions organised by National Tourist Offices.

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There were numerous accessions to the photograph library in the form of black and white negatives, prints, and colour transparencies. Over three hundred photos were distributed on request to illustrate articles and for display. A sub-standard film on tourism was commissioned and the Office provided the cameraman with facilities for touring the island.

The number of inquiries from intending visitors continued to increase.

The installation of a showcase at Plaisance Air Terminal was intended to show the standard of work achieved by local craftsmen and arouse interest in locally-produced articles.

The main production was a French version of " Mauritius Tourist Map and Travel Digest ". Besides the large number of copies issued to visitors to the Mauritius Stand at Madagascar, several thousand copies were distributed through air companies, shipping firms and travel agencies.

The monthly bulletin " Coming Events " designed for the information of visitors was improved as regards contents and presentation. More copies were printed to meet the increasing demand from air companies and interested organisations.

Tourist Statistics

Year	*No. of Tourists*	*Estimated Expenditure* Rs
1954	1,803	1,430,000
1955	2,121	1,490,000
1956	2,079	1,050,000
1957	2,410	1,200,000
1958	2,950	1,200,000
1959	3,350	1,800,000
1960	3,390	1,700,000
1961	4,430	2,200,000
1962	5,875	3,200,000

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Chapter 12 : The Press and Information Services

The Press

The history of the Press in Mauritius has been traced as far back as 1773. "*Le Cernéen*," one of the existing daily newspapers, has had an uninterrupted existence of more than 128 years and "*Le Mauricien*," another daily, has been published regularly for the past 53 years. The languages in which the newspapers are published are French, English, Hindi, Urdu, Tamil and Chinese. 13 newspapers appear daily, 19 appear twice weekly, weekly fortnightly or monthly.

Information Services

The functions of the Central Information Office are:—

(a) to establish and maintain relations of confidence and mutual understanding with all sections of the press;

(b) to ensure a flow of accurate information from the Government to the public;

(c) to impress upon the public the following themes:—

(i) the facts of the situation in which Mauritius finds itself (as summarised in the Report: A time for Decision) and the consequences which will flow if it is not remedied;

(ii) the strategy and plans of the Government in dealing with the situation;

(iii) the need to abolish economic waste;

(iv) the need for increased food production.

The broadcast feature entitled "Monday Night Topic" prepared in French and Hindi by the office continued to be on the air throughout the year. As in previous years, this programme provided listeners with comments on topical news most of them chosen, apart from their relevance to current themes, for their social, economic and educational value.

Apart from the feature mentioned above, the office provided the Mauritius Boadcasting Service daily with local news of public interest, communiqués from the various ministries and departments and, whenever any public utility campaign organized by the office warranted it, with slogans.

The Mobile Cinema Units gave 731 public shows and 182 private shows to social or other welfare organisations and semi-official bodies during the year as compared with 828 public shows and 126 private shows in 1962.

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35 editions of the office's bilingual (English/French) bulletin were published during the year. This 12-15 page roneoed publication has a circulation of 3,000. 1,075 copies of a Hindi version of this bulletin were also published. There is an ever growing demand for these bulletins.

The Mobile Cinema Units were employed, in the pre-electoral period, on publicity connected with the registration of electors.

The publicity campaigns undertaken during the year were:—

(i) The Anti-spitting Campaign which was taken up again by the Social Welfare Department under the aegis of the Ministry of Health and Reform Institutions. The office helped, as before, with the transmission of information and slogans to the press and to the Mauritius Broadcasting Service.

(ii) Publicity was given to the Anti-Poliomyelitis Campaign launched by the Ministry of Health.

(iii) The Post Office Savings Bank Campaign was started early in December.

The office continued, as in past years, to prepare for the benefit of Mauritius Students in the U.K., a monthly news bulletin, typed on wax, which is sent to the Mauritius Students' Unit in London for distribution. Copies of Weekly Bulletin, besides being sent by surface mail to the Commonwealth Public Relations Office, the Colonial Office, the British High Commissioner's Office, in India, are also sent by air to the Mauritius Students' Unit in London.

Photographs showing the implementation of Government projects, Ministerial and other Government activities, as well as other aspects of the Mauritian National Life continued to be displayed in front of Government House.

" Commonwealth To-Day " and other periodicals supplied to the department by the London Central Office of Information were distributed, as usual, to schools, colleges, youth clubs, village councils, social welfare centres, baitkas and madressas and other allied institutions. The increase in the supply of most of these publications made it possible for the office to keep step with the increasing demand from Youth Clubs and Village Organisations which are, every year, growing in number.

Seventeen 16mm documentary films and 51 British News were received free of charge from the London Central Office of Information, which brought the total number of films available in the Film Library, as at 31st December, to 420 as compared with 352 in the previous year.

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Some 200 requests for information about Mauritius, as compared with 81 last year, were received at this office. Enquiries about possibilities of settlement and touristic facilities in this country formed the bulk of these requests. A distinctive note of interest in the industries and administration of the island was also quite noticeable.

As regards the Mobile Library Service, though its bookstock is still too restricted to enable the office to meet the demands of the whole island, yet the number of service points have increased from 25 in the previous year to 35.

Broadcasting

In January 1962, responsibility for the Mauritius Broadcasting Service was transferred from the Chief Secretary's Office to the newly created Ministry of Information, Posts and Telegraphs and Telecommunications.

Before the Second World War broadcasting in Mauritius was run by a private commercial concern. During the war there were three stations in the Island, all partially or wholly controlled by the Government. In 1944, the Government decided to assume sole responsibility for broadcasting in the Colony and set up its own organisation, "The Mauritius Broadcasting Service", which broadcast programmes of a non-commercial nature until October 14th, 1963 when it started broadcasting spot advertisements.

During the year, Government signed an agreement with Thomson Television International (Ltd.), who were appointed as advisers for the introduction of commercial broadcasting and for the launching of the Television Service. With these developments in view, the erection of a new Broadcasting House estimated to cost Rs 1,800,000 was started early in October and it was expected that the work would be completed by the second half of 1964.

By the end of the year a 1Kw Sound 5Kw Vision Marconi Television Transmitter had been installed at Malherbes and field tests effected which proved satisfactory. Television studio equipment had also arrived and was to be temporarily installed at Malherbes so as to enable the staff to be trained in time for the starting of the Television service.

Since 1944, the number of radio licences has increased from 2,746 to 57,253 of which 6,677 were in respect of new radio sets licensed in 1963.

In 1962-63 the recurrent expenditure of the Mauritius Broadcasting Service amounted to Rs 503,438 as compared with a total

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revenue of Rs 629,700 derived from wireless licences, thus yielding a favourable balance of Rs 126,262.

In the 1960-65 Capital Expenditure Programme for the island the Broadcasting Service was allotted Rs 1,203,000 to which the Colonial, Welfare and Development Fund will contribute Rs 876,000. At the end of June 1963, a sum of Rs 130,851.73 had been spent on this development scheme.

The two 10 kw transmitters operate on 439.2 for listeners in Mauritius and on the 31 and 61 metre bands for listeners in the dependencies. A 250w transmitter operating on 439 metres is available in emergencies.

Since 1960, when cyclone Carol badly damaged the old broadcasting house at Forest Side, the whole organisation had been housed in a very restricted area in the Transmitter Building at Malherbes.

In October 1963, the administrative and programme sections were transferred back to Forest Side where the old building had in the meantime been repaired and accommodation provided to cope with the increased activities resulting from the introduction of commercial broadcasting.

The Mauritius Broadcasting Service is also responsible for the maintenance of the radio services belonging to the Telecommunications, Meteorological and Harbour Departments.

Transmissions are carried out for an average of 112½ hours a week as compared with 72 hours in 1962 in the course of which English, French and Hindustani are spoken. Programmes are also broadcast in Hindi, Urdu, Tamil, Telegu, Gujrati and Marathi and in two Chinese dialects.

Owing to lack of local professional artists, the programmes are mainly made up of recorded music and of transcription recordings from the British Broadcasting Corporation and the " Radiodiffusion-Television Française ".

8 news bulletins—two in English, four in French and 2 in Hindustani—covering a total of one hour and twenty minutes are broadcast daily.

The Education Department broadcasts weekly 2½ hours of programmes for the benefit of Primary and Secondary Schools.

The Globe Reuter News Service is monitored by the Mauritius Broadcasting Service which distributes daily approximately 225 duplicated copies of world news to the local press, Government Departments, members of the Legislative Council and the Admiralty.

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Chapter 13: Local Forces

The Special (Mobile) Force

When the Mauritius Garrison was withdrawn on the 30th June, 1960, after 150 years in the Island, the Government established a Special (Mobile) Force at the former barracks at Vacoas to replace the military for purposes of internal security.

The total authorised establishment of the Force is 6 Officers and 246 other ranks. At the end of the year its actual strength was 6 Officers and 146 other ranks. The two senior officers are styled Commandant and Deputy Commandant respectively.

The Force is equipped with four 3 ton troop load carrying vehicles and eight Land Rovers.

The Special (Mobile) Force was on parade on the occasion of the opening of Legislative Council, on Her Majesty's Birthday, on Bastille Day, on Commemoration Sunday and on the opening of the Legislative Council after the General Election.

Mauritius Naval Volunteer Force

The Mauritius Naval Volunteer Force completed its fourteenth year of service on 30th September 1963.

On 31st December 1963, the Force consisted of the Commanding Officer, two Sub-lieutenants as Staff Instructors, three Petty Officers and eight ratings as Permanent Staff and eighty seven volunteer ratings. The number of applications for entry into the Force remains high.

Volunteer ratings attend Evening Drills twice weekly and can attend extra voluntary sea training on MFV 189 on specified days and week ends. The attendance at both voluntary drills and extra training has continued to be most satisfactory.

In addition to voluntary drills and training, all members of the Force are required to carry out 14 days Compulsory Training annually. This year the training took place in October at the Cap Malheureux Youth Camp site and was attended by 3 Officers, 3 Petty Officers, 82 ratings and 14 probationary new entries. During this period of Annual Training the members of the Force carry out the normal routine of the Ship's Company of a Naval Establishment, and Volunteer ratings receive pay and allowances according to their rate. Instruction in general seamanship, boat-pulling, sailing, communications, rifle shooting, physical training,

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etc., was given, and sea training was carried out daily in M.F.V. 189. His Excellency the Governor paid an informal visit to the Camp on 20th October.

During the year the Force provided Guards of Honour consisting of 1 officer, 2 petty officers and 48 ratings on the following occasions:

Departure of the Commander-in-Chief, South Atlantic and South American Station, Vice-Admiral A. A. Talbot, C.B., D.S.O. on the 5th of June.

The landing of Vice-Admiral Patou of the French Navy on the 15th November.

Contingents were provided for the Queen's Birthday and Remembrance Sunday parades.

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Chapter 14: General

The Mauritius Institute

The Mauritius Institute traces its origin back to the year 1880 when an Ordinance was passed " to establish and incorporate a Public Institute, to be called the Mauritius Institute, a Public Museum and a Public Library, for the purpose of promoting the general study and cultivation of the various branches and departments of Arts, Science, Literature and Philosophy, and for the instruction and recreation of the people ".

The foundation stone of the present building was laid on the 23rd November, 1880, by Sir George Bowen, then Governor. The building was completed in 1884 and in the course of the following year the Natural History Museum, known as the " Desjardins Museum ", until then housed in a wing of the Royal College in Port Louis, was transferred to the new building. The public library was opened in 1903, following the munificent bequest of the Sir Virgile Naz Library which forms the nucleus of the present collection. The Institute has expanded its activities over the years and to-day it comprises a Public Library, a Natural History Museum, an Historical Museum, and a small Art Gallery.

The Institute is managed by a Board of Directors consisting of ten members apppointed annually by the Governor and of such persons as may be recommended by any literary or scientific society associated with the Institute. The staff consists of a Director, an Assistant Director of Meseum, a Librarian, and eight other officers.

The Public Library

The Mauritius Institute Public Library was created in 1902 from a nucleus of some 9,000 volumes which had been bequeathed to the Colony by Sir Virgile Naz, K.C.M.G. (1825–1901). By subsequent purchases and gifts the stock of books now consists of 40,055 volumes. Legislation provides for the compulsory deposit, in the library of one copy of all books, pamphlets and separates, published locally and this right of legal deposit, which exists since the foundation of the library, is an implicit recognition of its status as the National Library of the island.

In addition to the Virgile Naz section which, in accordance with the will of the donor, is kept separately, the library comprises the following sections: art, science, technology, biography, fiction, etc. There is also a " Quick Reference " section consisting of encyclopaedias, dictionaries, directories. A collection of bound

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periodicals covering a wide range of subjects is also available. A special book-case is devoted to Oriental languages.

An important feature of the library is the special collection of works, periodicals and manuscripts in many fields of study relative to Mauritius and the other Mascarene Islands. The collection is as far as possible extended to publications on Madagascar and at the end of the year was composed of 3,486 volumes. During the last decade, the scope of this local section has been enlarged to include, geographically, works on the Indian Ocean and, topically, monographs and reference works bearing on those themes in the development of which Mauritius had a part to play. Microfilms of rare works and of certain documents in overseas institutions have also been acquired. The bibliographical section has been enlarged and together with the existing card-catalogue provides facilities to the many research workers and students who make use of the library. These fall in several categories: overseas workers at universities or research institutions who maintain a regular correspondence with the Institute, visitors carrying on field work for shorter or longer periods in the island, visiting experts or technicians on Government missions, members of local institutions, societies and Government departments requiring information on a wide range of subjects.

The existence of a valuable section on natural history and biology should also be mentioned. It consists mainly of an important collection of works (about 6,000 volumes) many of which are now very scarce. Most of these books belong to the Royal Society of Arts and Sciences of Mauritius which is incorporated with the Mauritius Institute.

The library is arranged according to the Dewey Decimal Classification and the Browne system of book issue is in use.

Access to the Public Library is free, but a deposit of Rs 10 (15shs.) is required from readers wishing to borrow books. Some sections are however reserved and loans are made in special circumstances only. The number of registered borrowers has increased from about 200 in 1945 to 2,263 in 1963. The number of readers using the library facilities during the year was 36,404 and the book circulation for the same period was 38,769.

The Natural History Museum

The Natural History Museum is mainly regional in character and contains representative collections of the fauna, flora and geology of Mauritius and of the neighbouring islands. The Museum was visited by 89,031 persons during the year.

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The bird section contains specimens of most of the one hundred species of the birds of Mauritius. They have been grouped as shore birds, marsh birds, sea birds, game birds and land birds. The endemic species of which nine are still found out of a total of twenty-four, are displayed separately. The extinct species are shown by means of feathered restorations and paintings, and in some cases by actual skeletons. The Dodo is exhibited together with its relatives which inhabited the neighbouring islands of Reunion and Rodrigues. The species which was found in Reunion was known as the " White Dodo"; it is known only from historical evidence and by a 17th century painting, a reproduction of which is exhibited in the Museum. The Rodrigues *Solitaire* is exemplified by a genuine skeleton and by a water-colour reproduction of the feathered bird. The Museum also possesses the only known skeleton of the Mauritius flightless Red Hen *(Aphanapteryx bonasia)* and one of the three stuffed examples of the Mauritius Dutch Pigeon *(Alectroenas nitidissima)*, a species which became extinct about one hundred years ago.

In the mammal section are found examples of the very few species occurring in the Island which, with the exception of bats, have all been introduced by man at various times. These include the Javanese Deer imported by the Dutch, a Borneo Macaque released in the Island by the Portuguese, the Wild Pig and the Indian Hare.

In the reptile section are exhibited examples of the giant species of tortoises, extinct or still living, peculiar to the Indian Ocean islands, and of various kinds of turtles found in the region. The geckos, lizards and snakes of the Island are exhibited, including the very curious Round Island snakes, two species of which are found and are considered to be " living fossils ".

The fish section displays examples of the numerous species found in the territorial waters of the Island, all of them stuffed and painted in their natural colours. Fresh-water fishes, comprising about twenty-five species, some indigenous, others introduced, are also exhibited.

A large number of Echinoderms (sea-stars and urchins) live in the region and examples of nearly all the species, including a few almost unique ones, are represented in the Museum.

The Mollusca section has a rich collection and the Island is reputed for its extremely large variety of sea-shells, though most of these occur as well in all the Indo-Pacific region. The land shell fauna, comprising about two hundred species, is less spectacular but is scientifically more important, as many groups are peculiar to the Island. The fresh-water mollusca are insignificant, except from

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a medical point of view, one species being known to transmit Bilharzia disease.

The Museum also possesses local collections of crustaceans, insects, corals and plants.

Biological Research

The very interesting remnants of the indigenous land fauna and flora, together with the rich marine life of the surrounding seas present excellent opportunities for biological research. Scientific collections of all groups are made and these are studied overseas and locally by experts, the results being published in the Mauritius Institute Bulletin and in specialized publications abroad.

Art Gallery

A small art gallery is attached to the Port Louis Museum, consisting mainly of a collection of paintings presented to the Institute in 1921 by the late Mr. Edgar de Rochecouste. This collection includes a certain number of paintings of artists such as Ziem, Le Sidaner, Harpignies, and Jacques-Emile Blanche. A small section is devoted to the works of local artists.

The Historical Museum

A subsidiary museum devoted to local history has been arranged in an old French house at Mahebourg. It was in this house that Monsieur de Robillard, the French Commandant of Grand Port, received the two wounded commanders of the English and French squadrons, Admirals Willoughby and Duperré, during the well-known naval battle of August, 1810. Several objects connected with this episode and recovered one hundred and twenty-four years later from the wreck of the *Magicienne,* one of the English frigates sunk in Grand Port bay during the engagement, are exhibited. These objects include a portion of the ship's hulk, several heavy guns and carronades, cannon balls, grape-shot, copper coins, pieces of sailor's uniform and various other relics.

The capture of the Island by the British at the beginning of December, 1810, is illustrated by a series of coloured prints drawn on the spot by Temple.

A section of the museum is devoted to the display of a valuable collection of maps, charts, engravings and watercolours (many in original) which serve to introduce the visitor to the various periods of the history of Mauritius from its discovery to the present time. Worthy of special mention in this section are a portulan map

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published at Amsterdam in 1595 (probably the most accurate map of the region available at the time of the first Dutch visit to Mauritius in 1590), an English map of Mauritius by Mount and Page published in 1745 and derived from a Dutch source, Abbé de la Caille's map (1753) which is the first accurate map of the Island, Bellin's map of 1763, and two maps by Lislet Geoffroy, published by the British Admiralty in 1813 and 1814. Modern maps are also shown, including the fine one-inch map by Descubes (1880) which is of great practical interest as it indicates the site of over a thousand concessions.

Among the series of lithographs and water-colours recording the life, scenery and customs of different periods, may be noted six water-colours by Kelsey (early 1840's), coloured prints by Thuillier, coloured lithographs by Bradshaw and Rider (1831–32), water-colours by Leroy (1860's), and a water-colour panoramic view of Mauritius, sketched from Port Louis harbour by Augustus Earle who was on board the *Beagle* when Charles Darwin visited Mauritius in 1836.

A few pieces of local furniture belonging to the French Governor Mahé de Labourdonnais (1699–1753) and exhibits from the East Indiaman *Kent* which was captured by Robert Surcouf, *Roi des Corsaires,* in the Bay of Bengal in October, 1800, are on view.

Relics connected with the activities of the French privateers in the Indian Ocean at the beginning of the 19th century are also displayed.

Part of a room of the Museum is devoted to the history of transport in Mauritius exemplified by two *palanquins* and a *chaise à porteurs* which were in use before the era of roads and wheeled traffic.

A small exhibit is devoted to the history of the famous " Post Office " stamp of Mauritius (1847) and is illustrated by reprints of the stamp.

Among miscellaneous items of interest may be cited: objects rescued from some memorable shipwrecks in the region, the portraits or busts of certain French and British Governors (Mahé de Labourdonnais, Charles Decaen, Robert Farquhar, Lowry Cole, John Pope Hennessy), and the Roll of Honour of the Mauritian soldiers who lost their lives in the Second World War.

During the year the Historical Museum was visited by 21,863 persons, including 7,723 schoolchildren.

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Learned Societies

The following scientific and literary societies are associated with the Mauritius Institute:—

(1) *The Royal Society of Arts and Sciences of Mauritius* was founded in 1829 under the name of *Société d'Histoire Naturelle* and was honoured in 1847 by the permission of Queen Victoria to add the word " Royal " to its name. Its activities extend to most branches of natural history. Lectures on science and art are delivered by its members from time to time and also by visiting professors, artists and scientists. Proceedings of the Society, containing papers read before the Society, are published annually. The Society owns a library which contains many rare and valuable books and periodicals on natural history.

(2) *The Société de Technologie Agricole et Sucrière de Maurice* is a technical body founded in 1910 and devoted to the study of questions relating to agriculture and to sugar technology. The papers and proceedings of the Society are published in the quarterly *Revue Agricole*.

(3) *The Société des Ecrivains Mauriciens* was founded in 1938 with the object of encouraging the publication of literary works, and of establishing contacts with literary institutions overseas.

(4) *The Indian Cultural Association* was founded in 1936 with the object of promoting Indian culture in Mauritius and of fostering spiritual ties with India. It publishes a quarterly journal called " The Indian Cultural Review ".

(5) *The Société de l'Histoire de l'Ile Maurice* was founded in 1938 to foster and encourage the study of the Colony's history by the collection of documents on local history, publication of historical works, and the organisation of historical exhibitions and lectures.

One of the principal activities of the Society has been the production of the Dictionary of Mauritian Biography, twenty-five parts of which have already appeared. These contain about one thousand biographies of persons connected with Mauritius by birth or residence.

The Society awards prizes to schoolchildren to encourage the study of Mauritian history. It keeps in touch and exchanges publications with overseas institutions of like interests.

The Mauritius Archives

The Mauritius Archives Office is not only one of the oldest departments of the Colony, dating from the early years of the French settlement, but it is also one of the oldest archive centres of

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the Southern Hemisphere, ranking only after the Cape and Réunion repositories.

Under French rule the Office was a branch of the *Conseil Supérieur* and received special attention from the authorities. An early instance of the interest of the French Government in colonial archives is provided by the edict of 1776, which set up a central *Dépôt des Chartes des Colonies* at Versailles and enacted regulations for their better preservation. Another important measure was the establishment in Mauritius in 1808 of a *Dépôt des Cartes de la Marine* which for a long time supplied sailors and travellers in the South Indian Ocean with valuable information.

At the time of the land fighting which led to the surrender of the Island by the French, the local archives were removed from Port Louis to a safer place of custody in Plaines Wilhems and thus escaped damage. In 1815, after the final cession of Mauritius to Great Britain, they were handed over to the British authorities in an almost complete state, as comparatively few of the records were retained by the French Government.

Until 1949 the Archives were attached to the Registrar General's Department, and from January, 1950, to the Central Administration. By the Archives Ordinance (No. 71 of 1952) they were transferred to an Archives Department which is the central repository of all public archives.

The Archives Office is now divided into the following sections:

(i) the Repository, which comprises *inter alia* the records of the old French Administration (1721–1810), records of the British Administration (from 1810), notarial records, and private records;

(ii) the Library, which, besides being the official registry of all publications issued in Mauritius, contains Mauritiana printed abroad, reference books on general history, colonial history and archivology with a section devoted to collections of stamps, seals, currency notes and other material;

(iii) the Land Registry, which comprises the records of the former Land Court, memoranda of survey deposited by sworn land surveyors, with a section containing maps, charts and plans.

The Department is also equipped with a photostat and a duostat for the photocopying of records and the supply of copies to Government departments and to the public.

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The control and disposal of records is supervised by the Public Archives Records Committee. The Chief Archivist also inspects regularly archives lying in repositories other than the Archives Department.

Publications include the annual report, the quarterly *memoranda* of books issued in Mauritius and registered in the Archives, and the publications issued by the Archives Publication Fund Committee (established in 1951).

The bibliographical survey of Mauritiana started in 1951 was completed in February, 1955. The book, including about 1,000 pages and comprising altogether 8,865 entries, was published in 1956 under the title of Bibliography of Mauritius, 1502–1954. It was compiled with particular attention to historical development and with the main object of meeting the needs of those interested in history. To keep it up to date a bibliographical supplement including additional material recorded during each successive year from 1955 onwards, is issued as an appendix to the annual report of the Archives Department. Eight supplements have appeared.

In 1963 the Mauritius Archives Publication Fund Committee issued its seventh publication entitled: *Les deux princesses*, edited by Mr. René Le Juge de Segrais.

Former publications of the Committee comprise an Atlas-Souvenir to commemorate the work of Abbé de la Caille in Mauritius, a selection of documents on early American trade with Mauritius, an inventory of the records of the French East India Company's administration for 1715-1768 preserved in the Archives, a study on Mauritius and the spice trade, an account of a voyage to Mauritius and the Indian Ocean countries in 1802-05 and a selection of documents on the various constitutions of Mauritius.

British Council

The activities of the British Council during this year included participation in a Festival of English Drama, which involved the visit of a professional producer and a company of British actors and actresses to Mauritius. Three plays were presented, "Arms and the Man" (Bernard Shaw), "The Prisoner" (Bridget Borland) and "Julius Caesar" (Shakespeare), the latter involving the participation of a large number of Mauritian amateur actors.

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A scholarship was awarded to Mr. Claude Ricaud for botanical studies at the Imperial City of Science and Technology, London. British Council visitors to the U.K. included Mr. Balgobin, Town Councillor of Quatre Bornes Council, and Mr. S. Philogène of the Youth House who studied youth employment problems in the U.K. Mr. J. Thomasse, Deputy Town Clerk of Rose Hill-Beau Bassin was awarded a two months' bursary for the study of local Government administration in the U.K. Mr. J. Chowrimootoo of the Police Band, who spent a year at the Royal College of Music under a scholarship given by the Mauritius Government, was presented with a flute.

Over 29,000 books were loaned from the library during the year. 73 Mauritians attended the Introductory Course for students proceeding to Great Britain. Travel and welfare arrangements for Commonwealth scholars were handled as usual; all " sponsored students " going to the United Kingdom were met and provided with temporary accommodation. Feature and documentary films continued to be loaned to schools and other institutions in Mauritius.

The Representative once more acted as Chief Examiner for the oral English test for the Cambridge School Certificate examination.

Other Professional and Cultural Associations

British Medical Association, Mauritius Branch

A branch of the British Medical Association was founded in 1939. Membership is granted to all medical practitioners who have qualified for registration in Mauritius, including those holding French qualifications. The Branch represents the majority of the doctors in the Island and close collaboration is maintained between Government and the profession. The Branch is frequently consulted by the Government.

Le Cercle Littéraire de Port Louis

The principal object of this Society is to seek to bring together all those interested in French culture and ideas. Its aims are to encourage, by means of annual competitions and public lectures, the study of the French language and literature.

Alliance Française

The Mauritius Branch of the Alliance Française was founded in 1884 with the object of encouraging the study of the French language by means of French courses in schools and annual

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examinations as well as meetings and conferences on French literature and art. Two prizes are awarded annually to the best candidates in French of the Royal College and the Queen Elizabeth College. The Labourdonnais College was opened in 1953 by the Alliance Française.

Mauritius Dramatic Club

The first record of an organised amateur theatrical production in Mauritius goes back as far as the 25th April, 1848, when officers of the 5th Battalion, the Northumberland Fusiliers, staged three one-act plays at the Port Louis Theatre.

A Mauritius Amateur Dramatic Club was formed in 1898 and stage productions and play readings were regularly featured until the 1914-1918 War.

The present Mauritius Dramatic Club owes its origin to a revival in theatrical activity which began in early 1920 and which ultimately led to the formation of the Club in 1932. Since then stage plays, play readings and broadcasts have been frequently presented.

The Vacoas House of Debaters

This association, founded in 1936, takes a special interest in general educational and cultural development.

Fortnightly meetings are held for debates, play reading, unprepared stunt speeches and quiz programmes. Lectures and talks by eminent outside personalities are delivered from time to time.

Table-tennis, carrum, card games, outings, open-air campings, film-projections are some of the recreational activities.

Arrangements are periodically made for internal as well as inter-club contests in indoor games and debates.

The Hindi Pracharini Sabha

This society was established in 1935 with headquarters at Montagne Longue. Its main object is to promote and encourage study of Hindi in Mauritius. 121 Hindi Schools are at present affiliated to it. Efforts are being made to produce a uniform curriculum in all Hindi schools, to improve the standard of teaching, and to foster the study of Hindi language and literature. Three annual examinations in Higher Hindi are conducted with the collaboration of the Hindi Sahitya Sammelan, Allahabad, India.

The Young Men's Christian Association

The Mauritius Y.M.C.A. was founded in collaboration with the London Central Y.M.C.A. and inaugurated in August, 1952. It is also a member of the World Council of Y.M.C.A.

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The P.E.N. Club de l'Océan Indien

The Mauritius section of the " Federation Internationale des P.E.N. Clubs " was founded in Mauritius in 1951. It seeks to promote a spirit of understanding and friendship among the writers of all sections of the community and also among those of the neighbouring islands.

Centre Culturel Français

The *Centre Culturel Français* which was inaugurated in May, 1959, had, by the end of the year, enrolled some 700 members drawn up from all sections of the community.

The *Centre Culturel Français* is provided with a film unit, a goodsized library, an auditorium where records may be played at will. The Centre, situated at Curepipe, is open to the public. It is administered by two Honorary Chairmen (one of whom is the Consul for France), one President, two Vice-Presidents assisted by a Working Committee of 26 members.

The activities of the *Centre Culturel Français* are many and varied. Documentary films are shown twice monthly to the public while a cine-club operates for members twice monthly. Talks are given regularly on many subjects, literary as well as scientific, by visiting lecturers or by members of the Centre. Socials, seminars, debates, literary matinees and amateur film and slide projections are also held at the Centre.

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PART III

Chapter 1: Geography and Climate

POSITION

Few people living outside the Indian Ocean area would, without research, be able to place Mauritius accurately, unless perhaps they were stamp-collectors. On the map of the Indian Ocean the Island is shown by a dot somewhere near the centre. Yet it has laid claim with some degree of historical justification to the title of " The Star and Key of the Indian Ocean ". It is situated about 500 miles off the centre of the east coast of Madagascar, and is practically on the Tropic of Capricorn. By sea, it is 1,552 miles distant from Durban, 2,094 from Colombo and 3,182 from Perth. The voyage to the United Kingdom *via* the Suez Canal entails a journey of 6,942 miles, but if the alternate route *via* the Cape of Good Hope is taken the distance is 8,393 miles. Nowadays, most people travel to and from the Island by air, to Europe, India or South Africa, and journeys which used to involve weeks or months have shrunk to a matter of hours.

Physical Features

Geologically, the Indian Ocean consists of two great basins separated by a central submarine ridge running southwards from India. Mauritius is one of the few points on this ridge which appear above the surface. It is of purely volcanic origin and the Island we know today is probably only the worn down summit of an immense shield volcano which built itself up from the ocean bed in Cretaceo-Tertiary times. There were two distinct phases of volcanic activity, separated by a very long period of erosion. The older volcanic series began by the opening of a fissure in the earth's crust beneath the floor of the Indian Ocean. Eruptions slowly built up a submarine ridge of considerable height and extent. The base of the future island of Mauritius was one of the domes of this ridge. The island that appeared was perhaps, at one time, as high as the present-day Himalayas; then before the first cycle of volcanic activity ceased, a series of explosions partially destroyed what had been built up. During the very long period of quiescence which followed, the agents of erosion—wind and water, heat and cold—reduced the volcanic pile to a mere remnant. The olivine basalt blocks of the older volcanic series are hard, compact and black in colour.

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Towards the close of the Tertiary period, the second great phase of volcanic activity occurred. It was divided into two periods of eruptions, separated by a short period of erosion. The first outburst appears to have been confined to the south-west of Mauritius; the last one consisted of a succession of thin lava flows from 2″ to 20″ in thickness. These cover about 70 per cent of the present surface of the Island. Lava tunnels dating from this period are common, some of them carrying underground streams. There are also low hummocks *(tumuli)* of up to 15 feet in height, and a few depressions (e.g. at *Ile d'Ambre* and the *Puits des Hollandais)*. The rocks of the younger volcanic series are medium grey doleritic basalts.

Volcanic activity must have ceased in Mauritius more than 100,000 years ago, although the neighbouring French Island of Réunion still has an active volcano. In Mauritius a complicated series of geological submergences and emergences followed the cessation of volcanic activity. The present is a period of slow submergence. Raised reefs and beaches are found at many localities along the coast, some as much as 60 feet above sea level. The Island rests on a submarine shelf varying from ½ to 2½ miles in width, except towards the North where it covers an area of 15 by 13 miles. Outside this shelf the submarine ridge slopes rapidly down to the mean Indian Ocean depth of 2,000 fathoms.

Mauritius, which is roughly pear-shaped, is 38 miles long by 29 miles broad. From the North an extensive undulating plain rises gently towards the central plateau, where it reaches a height of about 2,200′ before dropping sharply to the southern and western coasts. There are three main groups of mountains—the Port Louis group running in a east-north-easterly direction, the Black River—Savanne group massed in a north to south direction, and the Bambous group with a east-west trend. The mountains are a striking feature of the Mauritian landscape, rising abruptly from the surrounding plain, with their lower slopes covered with dense vegetation—now being replaced by sugar cane or tea—and their upper slopes ending in precipitous rocky peaks with most distinctive outlines. They appear to be much higher than they actually are, and are particularly impressive in the early morning or towards sunset. Few visitors fail to notice the contrast between these stark, upthrusting masses, and the flat, fertile cultivated plains from which they rise.

The main watershed of the Island runs northwards across the central plateau for a distance of about 20 miles. From this ridge

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the ground slopes towards the coast, except where interrupted by the mountain ranges or by isolated peaks. The rivers consequently tend to run westward or eastward. Most of them are short and fast flowing, generally at the bottom of deep ravines and interrupted by waterfalls. Some of the larger have been harnessed for hydro-electric purposes. True crater lakes are found at Bassin Blanc and Grand Bassin, but in general water conservation is achieved by man-made reservoirs, of which there are now seven.

The Island is almost completely encircled by coral fringing reefs, within which are peaceful lagoons and a succession of lovely beaches of white, coral sand. Together with the mountains, the seashore is the glory of Mauritius and much of the social life of the Island is based upon it. Those who can afford the cost, have sea-side residences which they occupy during the winter months and at weekends for most of the other months. Public beaches give an outlet to the less favoured part of the population. As may be expected, swimming, sailing and fishing are popular pastimes in which all sections of the population indulge, no part of the Island being more than 17 miles from the coast.

Mauritius has a number of island dependencies in the Indian Ocean. These are Rodrigues (350 miles to the east), Chagos Archipelago (1,180 miles north-east in the direction of Ceylon), Agalega and Cargados Carajos (580 miles and 250 miles respectively north of Mauritius).

Rodrigues*, the principal dependency, is a mountainous island of volcanic formation encircled by a coral reef and has a total area of about 40 square miles. It measures 9½ miles in length by 4½ miles in width and its population consists mostly of fishermen and small cultivators.

Chagos* consists of five groups of coral islands, the biggest of which is Diégo Garcia. The horseshoe-shaped ribbon of land lying just above sea level surrounds a lagoon thirteen miles long and between four and five miles wide.

Agalega* consists of two small islands, separated by a narrow strip of sandbank. This dependency is the main source of copra for the edible oil industry of Mauritius.

The archipelago of Cargados Carajos*, usually referred to by the name of the principal islet, St Brandon, is a fishing station leased to a Mauritian company.

*See Maps at end of Report.

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Climate and Vegetation

Mauritius enjoys a sub-tropical maritime climate, with sufficient difference between summer and winter to avoid monotony: further variation is introduced by the wide range of rainfall and temperature resulting from the mountainous nature of the island. Humidity is rather high throughout the year and rainfall is sufficient to maintain a green cover of vegetation, except for a brief period in the driest districts. The greenness of the Island is, indeed, a striking feature of the territory giving an impression of high natural fertility. However, as the soil is generally shallow and deficient in phosphates and exchangeable bases, the fertility of the Island is in fact largely the consequence of man's intervention and skill.

The summer season runs from November to April, and the winter from June to October, though the months April—June and September—November can be looked upon as transitional periods and are usually the most pleasant in the year. Rain falls mainly in summer, but there is no well-defined dry season. At sea the annual rainfall near Mauritius is about 40 inches, but the uplift of the moisture-laden sea air, caused by the mountains, results in a rainfall varying from about 35 inches on the south-west coast to 200 inches on the central plateau. Variation from year to year is not large, but is nevertheless sufficiently great to reduce considerably the size of the sugar and other crops when the year is dry. The rain water percolates through the soil and is carried off in the ravines without causing much damage even in very wet years.

Average relative humidity varies from 70 per cent in October to 78 per cent in February on the coast in the Port Louis area. Upcountry, at Curepipe, the variation is from 85 per cent in the drier months to 90 per cent average in the wetter. On high ground 100 per cent humidity is frequently experienced. Relative humidity is highest about dawn and lowest at noon, but the daily range is only about 20 per cent because of the maritime climate. For the same reason, neither the seasonal nor the diurnal range of temperature is large.

In Port Louis, the day maximum and night minimum temperatures during the hottest months average 31°C and 24°C respectively; in the winter they average 25°C and 20°C. The highest and lowest temperatures ever reached are:—

	Maximum	*Minimum*
Port Louis	36°C	12°C
Curepipe (1,850 feet above mean sea level ...	32°C	7°C

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The amount of sunshine varies considerably from day to day, as might be expected in a mountainous, sub-tropical island, but there is relatively little change with the months of the year. In the drier north-west of the Island, there is an average of 8 hours' bright sunshine per day; on the high south-eastern slopes it averages 6 hours for most of the year but falls to 4¼ hours in mid-winter. The topography of Mauritius makes it an easy task to chase the sunshine.

For most of the year the Island experiences steady trade winds of moderate strength, blowing from south-east to east-south-east. In summer they may die away and be replaced for periods of a few days by calms or by a northerly wind which is humid and rather warm. Summer, too, is the cyclone season, the greatest frequency being in January and February. March cyclones are more dreaded, however, as when they occur at this time of the year they damage the maturing sugarcane crop to a greater extent.

During the past century cyclones have caused winds with gust speeds exceeding 100 miles per hour on about a dozen occasions. Winds speeds increase towards the centre of a tropical cyclone and little damage is likely to be caused if the centre passes at a distance of over 100 miles from the Island. After 15 years of freedom from cyclones, the island was hit by two major ones early in 1960 during one of which a gust of 159 m.p.h. was recorded.

In 1963, several cyclones passed about 100 miles from Mauritius not near enough to cause damage, but sufficiently close to give rainfall which resulted in the record sugar cane crop.

Population

Mauritius has the unenviable claim to fame of being one of the most densely populated agricultural areas in the world, with a population increase of 32 per cent in the last decade and no outlets in sight for its surplus population. The effect of this population increase has been described in a recent Sessional Paper as "a situation of real gravity, which will steadily deteriorate and which can only be remedied if policies, deliberately directed to that end, are framed and enthusiastically pursued."

The problem is further complicated by the heterogeneous nature of the population, drawn from European, African and Asian sources over the last three centuries. The largest population group is the Indo-Mauritian, representing two-thirds of the total population, and subdivided into Hindus and Muslims. The second largest group, about one-quarter of the population, comprises people of French, English and mixed descent, is Christian and mainly Roman

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Catholic. The last distinct group is the Sino-Mauritian, half Christian, half Buddhist. The employment pattern has tended to follow the racial, although it is being increasingly obscured by the need to find work wherever it offers. Generally speaking, however, the Hindus are agricultural, the Muslims are traders and industrial workers, the Chinese are shop-keepers, and the General Population clerical, commercial and professional urban dwellers. Population density throughout the Island is almost 975 per square mile, but this figure does not reveal the true position which is that the population is concentrated in a number of towns and villages. More than half the total population is below 20 years of age—a situation of real gravity in a territory with no natural outlet for its surplus population.

Economic Conditions

To-day, sugar means more to Mauritius than wool did to England in the days of the Merchant Guilds. The sugar cane covers 90 per cent of the total area under cultivation, and the yield represents 96 per cent of all arable production. Nearly 45 per cent of the total area of the Island is cultivated, an intensity of cultivation with few parallels in the tropics. Of this area, what is not under sugar is producing tea (mainly in the up-lands), tobacco, some maize, vegetables and in the drier coastal areas, aloe fibre for the making of sacks.

Originally indigenous forests covered the greater part of the Island. From the surviving remnants it is possible to distiguish two types—the rich, evergreen forests of the uplands where the rainfall is in excess of 75″ per annum, and the dry forests in the areas of lower rainfall. In all, they amount to only a few thousand acres of the area at present forested, the majority with exotic conifers and eucalyptus. The two disastrous cyclones which struck the Island at the beginning of 1960 have played *havoc* in the forests and the exotic species, specially conifers have in many cases been reduced to a chaotic mass of broken banches and trunks. Crown forests, mainly in the uplands, cover 67,000 acres. Around the coast there are 3,500 acres of Crown Land leased for tree cultivation. River and mountain reserves in private hands slightly exceed 15,000 acres. The forests have a dual function, as a protective cover on unproductive ground forming the catchment area of a number of rivers, and for producing most of the timber needed by the Island for construction or for use as fuel.

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With such a high proportion of land under arable crops and forest cover there is little room for livestock production. Cattle number only about 40,000. Pig-keeping is limited; sheep do not do well; goats are kept mainly by the Indian population; poultry-keeping both on an industrial basis and as a background occupation is growing in popularity. But the Island as a whole has placed its reliance on the skill of the sugar industry to continue to provide it with the means of purchasing from abroad its food and clothing, manufactured goods, machinery, fertilizers and building material—in fact, practically all it needs to live.

Sugar accounts for more than 95 per cent of domestic exports and tea and molasses are the only other exports from the Colony which exceed an annual value of over one million rupees. Domestic exports which usually vary between 250 and 325 million rupees a year, reached in 1963 the record figure of 427.8 million rupees; this was mainly due to a record sugar crop and very high prices obtained for that commodity on the world market. Total exports for the year thus exceeded the imports by 94.7 million rupees whereas in 1962 the excess of imports over exports amounted to nearly 16.9 million rupees. Almost all the sugar goes to the United Kingdom and Canada. Similarly about three quarters of the imports come from within the Commonwealth. Port Louis, the capital and only port equipped to handle ocean-going vessels, handles the sugar exports by means of lighters carrying the bagged sugar to ships moored in the stream. Inward freight is mainly discharged into lighters also. The opening of a new transit shed on the 23rd October has greatly helped to more speedy clearance of goods.

Mauritius is completely lacking in mineral resources, has no entrepot trade and apart from sugar and its by-products, has few manufacturing enterprises. It is a text book example of a one crop economy.

Communications

This small island of 720 square miles has an excellent system of road communications, exceeding 800 miles in all, of which 62 per cent are tarred. Road traffic is extremely dense. The railway service, now reduced by closures of uneconomic lines to a total of 77½ miles, is a Government enterprise and handles only goods traffic. There is only one airport in Mauritius, situated at Plaisance, in the south east of the Island about three miles from the coast, and managed by the Civil Aviation Department of the Mauritius Government. No Aircraft is registered on Mauritius and no internal services exist. Regular external air services are operated (thrice

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weekly) by AIR FRANCE to Madagascar and Reunion and (in alternate weeks) between Australia and South Africa *via* Cocos Islands and Mauritius by QANTAS EMPIRE AIRWAYS and SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS. In 1962 the British Overseas Airways Coporation started a regular weekly service between London and Mauritius *via* Rome, Khartoom and Nairobi. In 1963 the Rhodesian Airways started a fortnightly service between Mauritius and Southern Rhodesia.

Communication with the Dependencies is ensured by a passenger steamship service, with eight to ten sailings a year to Rodrigues. The minor dependencies are linked regularly by ships belonging to the commercial companies, to which the islands are leased for the production of copra, the collecting of guano or the exploitation of the off-shore fishing.

There is an efficient public telephone and telegraph system throughout the Island, which is linked with the rest of the world by Cable and Wireless Ltd., now operating radio-telephone links with many countries as well as its long-established world-wide cable service.

Finally, reference should be made to the Government operated Mauritius Broadcasting Service, which provides medium wave transmissions for local listeners and a short-wave service for listeners overseas.

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Chapter 2: History

The Island was probably visited both by Arab sailors and by Malays during the Middle Ages, and on maps of about 1500 it is shown with an Arabic name. During the early sixteenth century Portuguese sailors visited it several times, and the first European to discover Mauritius is believed to have been Domingos Fernandez. The Island appears on many sixteenth century maps with the Portuguese name of *Cerné* or *Cirné*.

Dutch sailors first visited the Island in 1598 and renamed it Mauritius, after their ruler Prince Maurice of Nassau; later they made frequent calls on their trading expeditions to the East Indies. First-hand accounts exist of these visits, and of visits by English, French and Danish ships, which called at Mauritius for water, food and cargoes of ebony. An English trading company planned to occupy the Island but was forestalled in 1638 by a Dutch company, whose settlement lasted (with a gap from 1658 to 1664) until 1710. It was from Mauritius in 1642 that Tasman set out on his most important voyage of Australasian discovery.

The Dutch settlers never numbered much over three hundred (including children and slaves) and the most useful element was a group of twenty or thirty farmers, rearing cattle, hunting, fishing and growing food crops as well as some tobacco. But the settlement never developed enough to produce dividends and the Dutch company finally abandoned it in 1710. The most noteworthy results of this Dutch occupation were the exploitation of the Islands's great ebony forests and the extinction of the Dodo, a bird peculiar to Mauritius, often mentioned by early seventeenth-century travellers. The Dutch are also to be remembered for the introduction of sugarcane, cotton, domestic animals and deer. Before the Dutch occupation the Island was uninhabited. The slaves introduced into Mauritius by the Dutch were brought from Madagascar.

The French in 1715 claimed the Island and called it *Ile de France,* but do not seem to have settled any of their surplus Bourbon colonists there until 1722. In the interval, European pirates from Madagascar and ships of the British Navy, searching for the pirates, were almost the only visitors.

From 1722 till about 1767 Mauritius was governed by the French East India Company. From 1767 to 1810 it was in charge of officials appointed by the French Government, apart from a brief period of independence under the Colonial Assembly during the

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French Revolution. In 1735 the population had grown to almost one thousand, including two hundred Europeans, and from the time of the governorship of Mahé de Labourdonnais onwards increased rapidly, reaching nearly twenty thousand in 1767 (fifteen thousand of them slaves). Labourdonnais did more than any other Governor to change what was a petty outpost into a strong, prosperous and well populated colony. Much of the land was divided into concessions of approximately a quarter-mile by a mile, and most of these were farmed. Coffee, manioc, maize, vegetables, fruit, indigo, cloves and sugar, were among the crops grown. There was some rearing of poultry, goats and cattle.

Towards the end of the Company's rule Port Louis, the capital, was a lair of speculators and adventurers desirous of returning to Europe as soon as they had made their fortunes. During the wars of the eighteenth century (Austrian Succession War, Seven Years War, and War of American Independence), the Island became a naval depot, supplying French fleets fighting the British in the Indian Ocean, and was the pivot of French schemes to drive the British out of their Indian trading settlements. It was also a port of call for several expeditions, notably that of Bougainville, and was described by many French travellers, of whom the best known is Bernardin de Saint Pierre, author of *Paul et Virginie*.

From 1767, under royal government, the population continued to increase, reaching thirty thousand in 1777, forty thousand in 1787, and nearly sixty thousand in 1797, including fifty thousand slaves from Madagascar and Africa. During the French Revolution the inhabitants of Mauritius set up a government virtually independent of France, because the property owners were resolved to defend their interests against the *Jacobins* and *sans culottes* and to resist the attempt made by the French revolutionary government to release the slaves. The Colonial Assembly organised successful and damaging raids on English commerce whenever England and France were at war. The raids continued while Decaen, one of Napoleon's generals, was Governor until in 1810 a strong British expedition, long planned and more than once postponed, was sent to capture the Island. A preliminary attack was foiled at Grand Port in August, 1810, but the main attack, launched in December of the same year with larger forces, was successful. Bourbon and Rodrigues were also occupied by the British in 1810, but by the Treaty of Paris in 1814 Bourbon was given back to France. Mauritius and its dependencies, including Rodrigues and the Seychelles, were then ceded definitely to Great Britain.

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Many English officials were brought in, together with a large garrison of several regiments. By 1870 the garrison had been gradually reduced to half a battalion, which was still further reduced after 1914. Few English merchants and private persons have settled in Mauritius, whose European population has remained mainly French in language and sentiment although loyal to the British Crown. After 1825 the Island flourished, especially by the export of sugar to England, the crop increasing from 14,000 tons to 34,000 tons in the decade 1823–33. During these early years the English Government's policy of suppression of the slave trade and the consequent plans to free the slaves were opposed until a sum of two million pounds sterling had been paid to the slave owners as compensation for the loss of their slaves. To replace the freed slaves labourers were brought from India to work in the fields. The population, which in 1833 had reached a hundred thousand (three-quarters of them slaves), had by 1861 risen to three hundred thousand, nearly two hundred thousand of them being immigrants from India, most of whom remained to settle in Mauritius.

With the aid of immigrant labour, imported fertilizers, improved methods of agriculture and richer cane varieties, the sugar crop rose to 70,000 tons in 1853, 150,000 tons by 1900, and in 1959 reached the record figure of 580,372 tons. In the interest of the sugar industry, forests were cut down, labourers brought in, reservoir and irrigation schemes carried out, new government departments set up and technicians trained. As Joseph Conrad wrote: " First rate sugarcane is grown there. All the population lives for it and by it. Sugar is their daily bread ".

Other industries were sporadically encouraged and usually neglected. After the slaves had been freed, much less food was grown locally and more was imported, especially rice from India. This became the staple food of the population and remained so, except in the 1939–45 war when rice supplies from Burma and India were cut off and imported flour and local crops had to be used as substitutes. When boom prices were being paid for sugar after the 1914–18 war, various minor industries including tea, brick and tile manufacture, tobacco, aloe fibre bags and a government dairy were developed.

One side of Mauritian history is concerned with cyclones, epidemics and crop pests, which from time to time have upset the economy of the island. In the eighteen-fifties there were epidemics of cholera and in the eighteen-sixties five years of epidemic malaria which caused in 1867 the death of 20,000 people in Port Louis alone

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and the mass migration of thousands of persons, including almost all the well-to-do, from Port Louis and the coastal districts to the higher, healthier parts of Plaines Wilhems. Curepipe, a scattered village in 1865, was by 1895 large enough to have a town board, nominated annually by the Governor, and by 1959 was a town of 27,900 people. The district of Plaines Wilhems, which in 1851 had 14,000 inhabitants, grew to 75,000 in 1921 and 194,800 in 1961. The cyclone of 1892, in which 1,200 persons were killed; the epidemic of sura in 1902, which killed off all the draught oxen and caused sugar estates hurriedly to import light railways; bubonic plague in 1899; the *Phytalus Smithi* beetle, which in 1911 was found to be attacking the sugarcane; the 1919 epidemic of influenza; the spread of malaria during the nineteen-thirties into the hills and higher districts; three cyclones and a serious outbreak of poliomyelitis in 1945 and finally two severe cyclones in 1960 are some of the greater misfortunes woven into the pattern of the Island's history.

When sugar prices were high and the Island was prosperous, living conditions were improved in various ways. The sanitation of Port Louis was improved in the eighteen-nineties after long discussion. Sir Ronald Ross's visit in 1908 led to useful anti-malarial work during the next twenty years. Reservoirs at Mare-aux-Vacoas (1893–95),La Ferme (1918), La Nicolière (1924) and Piton du Milieu (1956) brought irrigation and domestic water in private houses and to sugar estates in several districts. Child welfare and similar activities developed in the war years. After expert inquiries in 1921 the water supply of Port Louis was greatly improved and the port itself was modernised. Under the stimulus of the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts more money was spent on education after the War. Before 1937 government revenue had come mainly from taxes on goods entering or leaving the Island as well as on various local products. A graduated poll tax on incomes was introduced and within ten years had almost doubled government revenue. The poll tax was replaced by an income tax as from the 1st July, 1951. The revenue from this source rose from Rs 17,322,000 in the financial year 1950–51 to Rs 41,371,113 in the financial year 1960–61.

At times when sugar prices were low or climatic difficulties discouraging, the Island had to raise loans or obtain grants from London. This happened in 1892, in 1908 when a Royal Commission of Inquiry under Sir Frank Swettenham was sent out from England, in 1930 when government expenditure on public works and on

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salaries was cut, in 1945 and 1960 as the consequence of the disastrous cyclones of these years.

The main political events of the period 1850–1900 were the establishment of the Municipality of Port Louis in 1850, the Royal Commission of Enquiry on Indian Immigration in 1872, and the creation in 1886 of a Council of Government including elected members.

The early years of the present century were a period of slow recovery after the epidemics, cyclones and other calamities. The years that immediately followed the 1914-18 war were years of unprecedented prosperity, owing to a boom in sugar prices, but this prosperity did not last long. During the second World War, Mauritius assumed considerable strategic importance through the closing of the Suez Canal and the threat to India by the Japanese after their conquest of most of the European settlements in the Far East. The population at large played a valuable part in the organisation of local, military, and passive defence and a large number of the Colony's youth volunteered to serve overseas.

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Chapter 3: Administration

Central Government

The Government of Mauritius is vested in a Governor with an Executive Council and a Legislative Council.

The Executive Council is the principal instrument of policy. With certain exceptions the Governor is obliged to consult it in the formulation of policy and in the exercise of all the powers conferred upon him by the Mauritius Letters Patent, other than those which he is empowered to exercise in his discretion, viz. appointments and matters involving the use of the Prerogative. The exceptions are that the Governor is not obliged to consult the Executive Council on matters which in his judgment would entail material prejudice to the Crown or are too unimportant, or too urgent to allow time for consultation. In every case in the last category the Governor is required as soon as possible afterwards to inform the Executive Council of the steps he has taken and the reasons why. Where the Governor consults with the Executive Council, but considers it expedient in the interests of public order, public faith or good government that he should not act in accordance with its advice, he may with the prior approval of the Secretary of State act against its advice, or in case of urgency act against it without such prior approval, provided he promptly reports the matter to the Secretary of State with the reasons for his action.

In accordance with the Mauritius (Constitution) Orders in Council, 1958 to 1962, the Executive Council, which is presided over by the Governor, consists of the Chief Minister and Minister of Finance appointed by the Governor, three officials (the Chief Secretary, the Attorney General and the Financial Secretary) and nine other members appointed by the Governor, after consultation with the Chief Minister, from among the elected or nominated members of the Legislative Council. Both the ex-officio and the appointed members are styled Ministers. Each Minister is responsible for the administration of specified departments or subjects and is bound by the rules of collective responsibility. The ten appointed Ministers hold the portfolios of Finance, Health and Reform Institutions, Labour and Social Security, Education and Cultural Affairs, Agriculture and Natural Resources, Local Government and Co-operative Development, Housing, Lands and Town and Country Planning, Industry, Commerce and External Communications, Works and Internal Communications, and Information, Posts and Telegraphs and Telecommunications.

The official Head of the Civil Service is the Chief Secretary, who is also responsible as a Minister for the portfolio which in-

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cludes external affairs, defence, internal security, police and the Dependencies (Rodrigues, St. Brandon and the Oil Islands). The Attorney General and the Financial Secretary are the Government's official advisers on legal and financial matters respectively.

In 1963 the Legislative Council consisted of the Speaker, three ex-officio, 40 elected and 12 nominated unofficial members. Since January 1957 the Council has had a Speaker appointed by the Governor, in accordance with the Mauritius (Legislative Council) (Amendment) Order in Council, 1956, and the Mauritius (Constitution) Orders in Council, 1958 to 1962. A Deputy Speaker is elected by the Council from amongst those members who are not Ministers. In debates in the Legislative Council members may speak either in English or in French. The Governor retains a reserved power in regard to legislation.

The names of the members of the Executive and Legislative Councils in 1963 are given in Appendices II and III to this Report.

A Council of Government was first established in 1825. It consisted of the Governor and four officials. In the following year the Constitution was amended and a Council which included unofficial members was introduced. This Constitution provided for a Council of Government composed of certain officers of the Crown and an equal number of other persons to be taken from the chief landowners and principal merchants of the Colony; seven officials and seven non-officials were accordingly appointed.

The Constitution was again amended in October, 1885. The Council of Government under the revised Constitution consisted of the Governor, eight ex-officio members, nine members nominated by the Governor, and ten elected members; of the latter, two represented the town of Port Louis, the capital of the Island, and the remaining eight represented the rural districts. At least one-third of the nominated members were to be persons not holding any public office.

The Constitution was further amended in July 1933 by fixing at two-thirds the proportion of the nominated members of the Council who were to be non-officials and, although no provision to that effect was made in the Letters Patent, the nominated non-official members were allowed a free vote on all occasions. The Constitution of the Executive Council, which had hitherto consisted of the Governor and four ex-officio members, was amended at the same time, and the practice of appointing non-official members to the Council, which had prevailed before the Royal Commission of 1909 reported, was revived.

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GOVERNMENT HOUSE, PORT LOUIS, THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT
The ground floor was built in 1740 by Mahé de Labourdonnais.
The completed building dates back to 1771.

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The normal life of a Legislative Council is five years, but the last one to sit under the 1933 Constitution lasted from 1936 to 1948. This long extension was caused first by the war from 1939 to 1945 and subsequently by the time required to reach a final decision on the new and more liberal Constitution. The protracted labours of the Consultative Committee on the revision of the Constitution had ended in a virtual stalemate. In 1947 the then Governor, Sir Donald Mackenzie-Kennedy, broke this stalemate by submitting to the Secretary of State revised proposals based on his belief that the bulk of the population was not ready for fully democratic institutions. To guard against possible abuse certain safeguards were suggested, but within these limitations the widest possible measure of enfranchisement, on the basis of a " simple literacy " requirement, was recommended by the Governor whose recommendations were accepted and embodied in the Letters Patent, Royal Instructions and Order in Council dated the 9th December, 1947. A general election was held in August 1948 and the first Legislative Council met on the 1st September 1948.

Constituencies were regrouped under the Order in Council of December, 1947. Plaines Wilhems and Black River were joined together to form one constituency returning six members. The constituencies of Pamplemousses/Rivière du Rempart, Moka/Flacq and Grand Port/Savanne each returned three members, and the constituency of Port Louis had four members.

Under the 1933 Constitution the number of registered electors was never greater than 12,000 (the figure in December 1947 was 11,799). The number of registered electors under the 1947 Constitution was six times greater—71,723 having qualified to vote in the 1948 general election—and by the end of 1957 had risen to 91,010.

In 1958, by virtue of the Mauritius (Electoral Provisions) Order in Council, 1958, the 40 constituencies recommended in the report of the Mauritius Electoral Boundary Commission were demarcated and proclaimed, the registration of electors for the Legislative Council was undertaken for the first time on the basis of universal adult suffrage and the number of registered electors rose to 208,684. The number of registered electors for the 1963 general elections was 233,488.

On the 31st December, 1958, the Second Legislative Council was dissolved and the Mauritius (Constitution) Order in Council, 1958, was brought into operation with the exception of Part II relating to the Executive Council. The way was thus clear for a general election for the Legislative Council to take place early in 1959 on the basis provided in thhe 1958 Order in Council.

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In June and July 1961 a constitutional Review Conference was held at the Colonial Office with the Secretary of State in the Chair. The talks laid down two stages of advance. The first, including the title of Chief Minister for the Leader of the Majority Party in the Legislature, provision for the Governor to consult the Chief Minister on such matters as the appointment and removal of Ministers, the allocation of portfolios and the summoning, prorogation and dissolution of the Council and the creation of an additional unofficial ministerial post with responsibility for Posts and Telegraphs, Telecommunications, the Central Office of Information and the Broadcasting Service, was to be brought into operation as soon as the necessary arrangements could be made. The First Stage actually took effect on the 1st January 1962 with the coming into operation of the Mauritius (Constitution) (Amendment) Order in Council, 1961. The Second Stage presented a broad basis of the Constitution for adoption after the next General Election and in the light of that election, if following an affirmative vote by the Legislative Council, it was recommended to the Secretary of State by the Chief Minister. On the assumption that the Second Stage was implemented after the next General Election, it was expected that during the period between the next two General Elections, i.e. the Second Stage, Mauritius should be able to move towards full internal self-government, if all went well and if it seemed generally desirable.

In December 1963 the Legislative Council approved a motion that the Second Stage should now be implemented and the Chief Minister recommended that the Second Stage should be brought into operation as soon as the necessary arrangements could be made.

The Public Service Commission Ordinance was passed in 1953 (No. 23 of that year) providing for the constitution of a Public Service Commission with a membership of not more than four members including the Chairman. The Ordinance was brought into force with effect from the 11th May, 1955, by Proclamation. Subsequently the Ordinance was amended by the Public Service (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 23 of 1959) increasing the number of members to five. By virtue of section 52 of the Mauritius (Constitution) Order in Council, 1958, as amended by section 2 of the Mauritius (Constitution) (Amendment) Order in Council, 1959, the Commission is part of the constitution of Mauritius. The Commission's function is to advise the Governor on appointments, promotions, disciplinary action and other matters which are referred to it in accordance with the provisions of the Ordinance. During 1963

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the Commission considered 6,089 applications in connexion with first appointments to 374 posts, as well as the claims of 419 candidates for promotions: this involved a total of 561 interviews. The Commission also advised on 13 disciplinary cases and considered 69 matters concerning the grant of study leave or scholarships.

The Police Service Commission consists of a Chairman and four other members in accordance with section 3 of the Mauritius (Constitution) (Amendment) Order in Council, 1959, under which it was constituted on 28th July, 1959: the Chairman of the Public Service Commission serves as Chairman.

The Commission advises the Governor on any question relating to the appointment, promotion, dismissal or disciplinary control of members of the police force, and on any matters affecting the police force which may be referred to it.

Local Government

Urban

The Municipality of Port Louis was first established in 1850. The membership of the Municipal Council, which is wholly elected, was increased from 12 to 16 by the Municipality (Amendment) Ordinance, 1950 (No. 35 of that year).

In Plaines Wilhems the Town Councils (Constitution) Ordinance (No. 38 of 1950) provided for Town Councils to replace the former Boards of Commissioners for Curepipe, Beau Bassin-Rose Hill, and Quatre Bornes. By virtue of Proclamation No. 13 of 1963, the township of Vacoas—Phoenix was created and the Town Council came into existence on the 20th December 1963. Each of these Councils has twelve elected and four nominated members.

The franchise was formerly based on residence, plus a simple literacy test, occupation of business premises in the electoral area, or the payment of rates or taxes. During 1959, however, the decision was taken to hold the Municipal and Town Council elections on the basis of universal adult suffrage and certain taxpayers' qualifications.

The number of registered electors for the Municipal and Town Councils at the end of 1963 was as follows:—

Council	*Registered electors*
Port Louis	... 37,430
Curepipe	... 16,467
Beau Bassin/Rose Hill	... 18,814
Quatre Bornes ...	... 12,017
Vacoas—Phœnix ...	... 13,872

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By virtue of the Local Government Elections Ordinance (No. 1 of 1956) responsibility for the registration of electors and for the conduct of elections in the electoral areas of the Municipality and the three Town Councils was placed on an Electoral Commissioner appointed by the Governor. In 1956 electors were registered and the general elections for the Municipal and Town Councils were conducted in accordance with the provisions of that Ordinance for the first time. This Ordinance, however, was repealed by the Representation of the People Ordinance (No.14 of 1958) which provides for the registration of electors and the conduct of elections for both the Legislative Council and the Municipal and Town Councils. Responsibility for the registration of electors and the conduct of elections continues to be vested in the Electoral Commissioner.

In July 1962, the Local Government Ordinance, primarily designed to substitute one comprehensive ordinance for the numerous existing ordinances applying to Local Government Bodies, came into force. The pattern of the ordinance follows the legislation in force in England and Wales, modified or adapted where considered appropriate to meet local circumstances.

So far as urban authorities are concerned, the main provisions embodied in the Local Government Ordinance, 1962, may be summarised as follows:

(a) More comprehensive provisions for the appointment, discipline, accountability and protection of officers;

(b) more comprehensive provisions for the creation of new areas;

(c) additional powers in respect of the acquisition and disposal of land, taxation and borrowing;

(d) a new rating system, with the appointment of a Valuation Officer and the establishment of a Valuation Tribunal;

(e) more adequate and suitable provision in respect of expenditure control, maintenance and audit of accounts.

Rural

The main developments in rural local government since the end of the last war may be outlined as follows:

(a) Appointment of Civil Commissioners—A fresh start in local government was made in October, 1946, when a Civil Commissioner was appointed to take charge of the southern districts of Grand Port and Savanne. Three other Civil Commissioners were subsequently appointed: one for the North (Pamplemousses and Rivière du Rem-

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part) in 1947, one for Moka-Flacq in 1948, and one for Plaines Wilhems-Black River in 1955.

(b) *Establishment of Village Councils.*—Village councils were first constituted in 1947. A few councils developed very rapidly indeed, and with funds provided by the central government undertook road repairs, the construction of bridges, markets, public latrines, improvements to water supplies, etc.

(c) *Village Councils and District Councils Ordinances, 1951.*—The Village Councils and District Councils Ordinances, 1951, constituted the first step towards decentralisation of administration. Regular elections and powers to revise taxes, own property, and make bye-laws greatly enhanced the status of the village councils.

At the end of 1952 district councils were set up in each of three Civil Commissioners' districts, and in the fourth (Plaines Wilhems-Black River) in 1958.

(d) *Sessional Paper No. 2 of 1956.*—In 1955, the problems of rural administration, its relations with the central government, the position of the Civil Commissioners and the future of district councils as they advanced beyond the preliminary stage of their development, were reviewed by Government. In November, 1956, Sessional Paper No. 2 of 1956 on the development of rural local government in Mauritius was debated by Legislative Council and was accepted as providing a sound basis for such development. The paper reviewed the position of village and district councils in rural local government, and suggested the general line on which the responsibilities and exercise of active citizenship in rural areas could best be developed.

In brief, the recommendations made in this paper were as follows:—

(i) District and village councils should cease to be agencies for the distribution of funds derived from the central government and should raise their own funds;

(ii) district and village councils should have appropriate trained staff;

(iii) the direct participation of Civil Commissioners in the work of district councils as members of those councils should cease while their essential functions as guides and advisers of the district councils, particularly in financial matters, should remain unchanged;

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(iv) representatives of Government departments should similarly cease to be members of district councils by nomination;

(v) the nomination to district councils of members of the Legislature, estate managers, and presidents of Co-operative Socities should also be reviewed in the light of the principles outlined in the Sessional Paper.

(e) Local Government Ordinance, 1962.—The recommendations of Sessional Paper No. 2 of 1956, referred to above, were largely embodied in the Local Government Ordinance, 1962. This substituted one comprehensive ordinance, applicable to all local government bodies, for a number of ordinances which were out-of-date, and had been extensively amended.

Under the provisions of Proclamation No. 12 of 1963, 16 village councils were dissolved, 13 in Plaines Wilhems—Black River and 3 in Pamplemousses—Rivière du Rempart districts. The boundaries of the towns of Port Louis, Curepipe, Beau Bassin—Rose Hill and Quatre Bornes were accordingly altered to include the areas formerly falling within the jurisdiction of these councils. At the end of 1963 there were 27 village councils in the North, 29 in the South, 32 in Moka—Flacq and 10 in Plaines Wilhems—Black River. Village councils consist of not less than 7 and not more than 12 members including 3 appointed by the Governor. District councils consist of 10 chairmen of village councils and 5 persons appointed by the Governor. Employees of Government or of local authorities are no longer entitled to sit on village or district councils. The direct participation of Civil Commissioners in the work of district councils has ceased, but they retain certain statutory responsibilities, and continue to act as guides and advisers to the councils.

Local Government forms part of the port-folio of the Minister of Local Government and Co-operative Development.

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Chapter 4: Weights and Measures

The metric system is in general use in the Colony, certain French measures are still used in connection with measurements of land, the more common being:

1 French foot	=	1·06 English feet
1 Arpent	=	40,000 French square feet or 1·04 acres
1 Toise	=	6 French feet or 2 yards 4 inches

The following measures of capacity are also in use:

1 Bouteille	=	800 c.c. (liquid)
1 Chopine	=	half-bouteille
1 Corde	=	80 French cubic feet or 96·82 English cubic feet (used only to measure firewood).

A measure of length commonly used in the field is the *Gaulette* which is equivalent to 10 French feet. The term *livre* is used currently to mean half a kilogram.

The Weights and Measures Control Section of the Police Force is responsible for examining and stamping weights, scales, weighing machines, measures of length and measures of capacity. This section also deals with all inaccurate weights and measures seized by the Police, and issues the necessary certificates for production in Court. The control of weighbridges on sugar estates is the responsibility of the Central Board constituted under the Sale of Canes (Control) Ordinance.

The amount of duty collected on weights and measures in 1963 was Rs 12,479.23 compared with Rs 6,180.74 in 1962.

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Chapter 5: Reading List

A list of publications of general interest relating to Mauritius is given in Appendix IV.

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APPENDIX I

Capital Expenditure Programme 1960—1965

Allocations made in Sessional Paper No. 2 of 1961, as subsequently amended, and Actual Expenditure to 30th June, 1963

Allocation	*Total 1960–65 Revised*	*Actual Expenditure to 30.6.63*
	Rs	Rs
CENTRAL AND DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIONS		
Central Administration	3,869,325	958,377
District Administrations	32,683	32,683
Police	3,537,197	1,906,575
Fire Services	642,000	176,854
Training Scheme	650,000	72,673
Printing	200,000	79,036
Special Mobile Force	203,000	167,056
Electoral Commission	121,470	121,470
TOTAL	9,255,675	3,514,724
TREASURY, CUSTOMS AND EXCISE MISCELLANEOUS LOANS AND SUBVENTIONS		
Treasury	103,345	103,345
Customs and Excise	400,000	—
Miscellaneous Loans and Subventions	27,000	27,000
Loans for development Institutions	39,443,500	9,954,382
TOTAL	39,973,845	10,084,727
AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES		
Agriculture	18,174,274	8,041,957
Forests	247,256	79,080
TOTAL	18,421,530	8,121,037
EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS		
Primary Education	9,323,879	2,947,183
Secondary Education	6,344,000	1,773,010
Archives	17,000	16,488
Mauritius Institute	30,000	—
TOTAL	15,714,879	4,736,681
HEALTH AND REFORM INSTITUTIONS		
Health	13,359,421	1,128,779
Prisons	469,631	374,304
Social Welfare	133,999	132,904
TOTAL	13,963,051	1,635,987

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APPENDIX I—*continued*

Allocation	*Total 1960–65* Rs	*Actual Expenditure to 30.6.63* Rs
LABOUR AND SOCIAL SECURITY		
Public Assistance	300,000	92,151
Labour	110,000	—
TOTAL	410,000	92,151
WORKS AND INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS		
New storage and Irrigation Works	8,771,000	3,044,604
Domestic Water Supplies	8,511,511	3,564,145
Sewerage	20,718,000	12,799,199
Public Works	2,377,714	1,594,193
Roads	31,133,000	19,812,381
Road Traffic Licensing Authority	438,500	148,243
TOTAL	71,949,725	40,962,765
INDUSTRY, COMMERCE AND EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS		
Secondary Industries	100,000	58,017
Electricity	47,520,000	19,786,210
Harbour and Quays	13,365,000	10,662,475
Meteorology	330,000	63,343
Civil Aviation	16,442,987	6,387,769
Tourism	1,770,560	1,396,141
TOTAL	79,528,547	38,353,955
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT		
Local Government...	6,850,000	3,870,161
Loans to Co-operative Societies	110,000	110,000
TOTAL	6,960,000	3,980,161
HOUSING, LANDS AND TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING		
Housing	74,778,000	32,326,162
Cadastral Survey	22,660	22,635
TOTAL	74,800,660	32,348,797
Cyclone Emergency Expenditure	11,822,080	10,753,823
INFORMATION, POSTS & TELEGRAPHS & TELECOMMUNICATIONS		
Broadcasting	1,203,000	130,855
Posts and Telegraphs	248,339	64,565
Telecommunications	9,298,641	7,111,000
TOTAL	10,749,980	7,306,420
RESERVE	450,028	—
GRAND TOTAL	354,000,000	101,891,225

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APPENDIX II

(Part III—Chapter 3: Administration)

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IN 1963

President

His Excellency SIR JOHN RENNIE, K.C.M.G., O.B.E. ,until 3rd May and from 14th May

T. D. VICKERS, ESQ., C.M.G., from 4th May until 13th May

Ex Officio Members

The Chief Secretary

T. D. VICKERS, ESQ., C.M.G., until 26th May and from 17th September

A. F. BATES, ESQ., C. M. G., (Acting) from 27th May and until 30th June

A. S. ALLAN, ESQ., M.B.E., (Acting) from 1st July and until 16th September

The Attorney General

J. M. LAVOIPIERRE, ESQ., Q.C., until 13th May and from 21st May until 21st July; then from 6th August

V. G. BOULOUX, ESQ., (Acting) from 14th May until 20th May

M. LATOUR-ADRIEN, ESQ., (Acting) from 22nd July until 5th August

The Financial Secretary

A. F. BATES, ESQ., C.M.G., until 13th January; from 4th February until 5th May; from 1st July until 14th July; from 6th August until 20th September; from 1st October until 20th October; then from 3rd December

J. D. GREIG, ESQ., (Acting) from 14th January until 3rd February; from 6th May until 30th June; from 21st September until 30th September; then from 21st October and until 2nd December.

D. A. KAIN, ESQ., O.B.E., (Acting) from 15th July until 5th August.

Appointed by the Governor

Dr. the Honourable S. RAMGOOLAM, Chief Minister and Minister of Finance

The Honourable A. BEEJADHUR, Minister of Education and Cultural Affairs (until 21st October).

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APPENDIX II—*continued*

The Honourable S. BOOLELL, Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The Honourable J. G. FORGET, Minister of Health and Reform Institutions.

The Honourable F. LAVENTURE, Minister of Local Government and Co-operative Development (until 21st October).

The Honourable A. R. MOHAMED, Minister of Housing, Lands and Town and Country Planning.

The Honourable V. RINGADOO, Minister of Labour and Social Security.

The Honourable H. E. WALTER, Minister of Works and Internal Communications.

The Honourable A. H. M. OSMAN, Minister of Posts and Telegraphs and Telecommunications.

The Honourable J. M. PATURAU, D.F.C., Minister of Industry, Commerce and External Communications.

The Honourable S. BISSOONDOYAL, Minister of Local Government and Co-operative Development (from 12th November).

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APPENDIX III

(Part III –Chapter 3: Administration)

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN 1963

Speaker

The Honourable H. R. VAGHJEE

Deputy Speaker

The Honourable C. C. DAVID, Nominated Member

Ex Officio Members

The Chief Secretary

T. D. VICKERS, ESQ., C.M.G., until 26th May and from 17th September

A. F. BATES, ESQ., C.M.G., (Acting) from 27th May to 30th June.

A. S. ALLAN, ESQ., M.B.E., (Acting) from 1st July to 16th September

The Attorney General

M. LAVOIPIERRE, ESQ., Q.C., until 13th May; from 21st May to 21st July and then from 6th August

V. G. BOULOUX, ESQ., (Acting) from 14th May to 20th May

M. LATOUR-ADRIEN, ESQ., (Acting) from 22nd July to 5th August

The Financial Secretary

A. F. BATES, ESQ., C.M.G., until 13th January; then from 4th February to 5th May; from 1st July to 14th July; from 6th August to 20th September; from 1st October to 20th October and from 3rd December

J. D. GREIG, ESQ., (Acting) from 14th January to 3rd February from 6th May to 30th June; from 21st September to 30th September and from 21st October to 2nd December

D. A. KAIN, ESQ., (Acting) from 15th July to 5th August

Elected Members

The Honourable H. R. K. ABDOOL, Member for Port Louis Central as from 12th November

The Honourable J. E. M. L. AH-CHUEN, Member for Port Louis Maritime as from 12th November

The Honourable P. G. G. BALANCY, Member for Port Louis South, as from 12th November

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APPENDIX III—*continued*

The Honourable R. BALGOBIN, Member for Grand River South East

The Honourable D. BASANT RAI, Member for Vieux Grand Port

The Honourable A. BEEJADHUR, Member for Rivière du Rempart until 4th September

Dr. the Honourable R. BHAGEERUTTY, Member for La Caverne

The Honourable S. BISSOONDOYAL, Member for Rose Belle

The Honourable S. BOOLELL, Member for Montagne Blanche

The Honourable J. E. CHANGKYE, Member for Port Louis South until 4th September

Dr. the Honourable R. CHAPERON, Member for Stanley as from 12th November

The Honourable P. DABEE, Member for Savanne until 4th September

The Honourable A. DAHAL, Member for Rivière des Anguilles until 4th September

The Honourable J. S. E. DAVID, Member for Midlands until 4th September

The Honourable J. R. DELAITRE, Member for Quatre Bornes until 4th September

The Honourable L. R. DEVIENNE, Member for Port Louis West as from 12th November

Dr. the Honourable W. R. DUPRÉ, Member for Port Louis West until 4th September

The Honourable C. G. DUVAL, Member for Curepipe

The Honourable M. FOOGOOA, Member for Long Mountain

The Honourable A. W. FOONDUN, Member for Bon Accueil as from 12th November

The Honourable J. G. FORGET, Member for Belle Rose

The Honourable G. GANGARAM, Member for Black River until 4th September

The Honourable K. GOKULSING, Member for Black River as from 12th November

The Honourable V. GOVINDEN, M.B.E., Member for Souillac

The Honourable S. INDUR, Member for Stanley until 4th September

The Honourable A. H. G. M. ISSAC, Member for Port Louis Central until 4th September

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APPENDIX III—*continued*

The Honourable K. JAGATSINGH, Member for Petite Rivière until 4th September

The Honourable R. JAYPAL, Member for Grand'Baie

The Honourable R. JOMADAR, Member for Flacq

The Honourable A. JUGNAUTH, Member for Rivière du Rempart as from 12th November

The Honourable J. M. J. L. M. J. KOENIG, Q.C. Member for Beau Bassin

The Honourable G. KOORARAM, Member for Floreal until 4th September

The Honourable L. O. LACAZE, Member for Port Louis North until 4th September

The Honourable L. M. LEAL, Member for Grand River North West as from 12th November

The Honourable M. LESAGE, Member for Quatre Bornes as from 12th November

Dr. the Honourable J. J. MAINGARD DE LA VILLE-ES-OFFRANS, M.B.E., Member for Floreal as from 12th November

The Honourable R. MODUN, Member for Pamplemousses as from 12th November

The Honourable A. R. MOHAMED, Member for Port Louis East

The Honourable A. MOIGNAC, Member for Grand River North West until 4th September

The Honourable D. NAPAL, Member for Pamplemousses until 4th September

The Honourable A. H. M. OSMAN, Member for Phoenix

The Honourable J. M. POUPARD, Member for Midlands as from 12th November

The Honourable N. P. PUDARUTH, Member for Petite Rivière as from 12th November

Dr. the Honourable S. RAMGOOLAM, Member for Triolet

The Honourable S. Y. RAMJAN, Member for Port Louis Maritime until 4th September, and Member for Rivière des Anguilles as from 12th November

The Honourable B. RAMLALLAH, Member for Poudre d'Or

The Honourable H. RAMNARAIN, Member for Piton

The Honourable M. J. J. R. REY, Member for Moka

The Honourable J. A. RIMA, Member for Port Louis North as from 12th November

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APPENDIX III—*continued*

The Honourable V. RINGADOO, Member for Quartier Militaire

The Honourable J. N. ROY, Member for Plaine Magnien

The Honourable R. SEWGOBIND, Member for Vacoas

Dr. the Honourable L. TEELOCK, Member for Bon Accueil until 4th September

The Honourable K. TIRVENGADUM, Member for Savanne as from 12th November

The Honourable H. E. WALTER, Member for Mahebourg

The Honourable J. H. YTHIER, Member for Rose Hill

Nominated Members

The Honourable J. E. M. L. AH-CHUEN until 4th September

The Honourable H. BAHEMIA as from 12th November

The Honourable S. BAPPOO as from 12th November

Dr. the Honourable L. R. CHAPERON until 4th September

The Honourable Mrs. N. CHICOREE as from 19th March

The Honourable C. C. DAVID

The Honourable L. R. DEVIENNE until 4th September

Dr. the Honourable R. GHURBURRUN as from 12th November

The Honourable R. GUJADHUR as from 12th November

The Honourable F. LAVENTURE until 10th November

The Honourable C. A. F. LECKNING as from 19th March

The Honourable J. G. MARIE died on 19th February

The Honourable Sir ANDRÉ L. NAIRAC, C.B.E., Q.C., until 4th September

The Honourable I. PEEROO until 4th September

The Honourable J. M. PATURAU, D.F.C.

The Honourable P. G. R. RAULT until 4th September

The Honourable M. R. G. ROCHECOUSTE until 31st January

The Honourable A. H. ROSSENKHAN as from 12th November

The Honourable I. G. G. SMITH, O.B.E.., until 4th September

The Honourable K. SUNASSEE as from 12th November

The Honourable S. VIRAHSAWMY as from 12th November

The Honourable J. M. M. G. MARCHAND as from the 12th November

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APPENDIX IV

(Part III—Chapter 5: Reading list)

Leading Books on Mauritius

GENERAL

GENERALIA

UNIENVILLE, Marie Claude Antoine Marrier, *baron* d': Statistique de l'île Maurice et ses dépendances, suivie d'une notice historique sur cette colonie et d'un Essai sur l'île de Madagascar. Paris G. Barba, 1838. 3v.

A second edition was published in Port Louis, Typ. The Merchants and Planters Gazette, 1885–86, 3 vols, with phot. portr.

MAURITIUS. *Central Statistical Office.* Year Book of statistics. v. 1 (1946)—v. 14 (1959).

MACMILLAN, Allister, *ed*: Mauritius Illustrated. Historical and descriptive, commercial and industrial facts, figures, and resources. London, W. H. and L. Collingridge, 1914. 456, with numerous illus. and maps.

PRIDHAM, Charles. An historical, political and statistical account of Mauritius and its dependencies. London, T. and W. Boone, 1849. xiii, 410p.

WALTER, A. Chronological table of events in Mauritius, 1507–1916. Appendix to the Mauritius Almanac, (1917). Mauritius, The Mauritius Stationery and Printing Cy. Ltd., 1917. 57p.

Fairly complete for the period of British occupation.

CHAROUX, Clément. Guide illustré de l'île Maurice. Port Louis. General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1936. 64, (32), IIp., illus.

TOUSSAINT, Auguste. Port Louis, deux siècles d'histoire, (1735–1935). Avec une Préface de Pierre Crépin, Docteur-ès-Lettres, Lauréat de l'Académie Française. Port Louis, La Typographie Moderne, 1936. (IX), 516p., with 50 plates and 9 maps.

Published on the occasion of the celebration of the bi-centenary of the foundation of Port Louis under the patronage of the Bi-centenary Committee, the Historical Records Committee and the Royal Society of Arts and Sciences of Mauritius. A very full account of the development of Port Louis.

BARNWELL, P. J. *and* TOUSSAINT, A. A short history of Mauritius London, Longmans, Green & Co., 1949. 268p., illus.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

SORNAY, Pierre de. Isle de France—Ile Maurice. Port Louis, The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1950. XIV, 550, XXVIIp., illus.

TOUSSAINT, Auguste: Select bibliography of Mauritius. Port Louis, The Standard Printing and Stationery Establishment, 1951. 56p.

TOUSSAINT, A., *and* ADOLPHE, H. Bibliography of Mauritius (1502–1954), covering the printed record, manuscripts, archivalia and cartographic material. Port Louis, Esclapon Ltd. 1956. xvii, 884p.

TOUSSAINT, Auguste: Histoire de l'Ocean Indien. Paris, Presses Universitaires de France, 1960.

ADMINISTRATIVE

ADMINISTRATION AND POLITICS

RAE, William Charles, *Comp.*: A handbook on the constitution, practice and proceedings of the Council of Government of Mauritius. Mauritius, Central Printing Establishment, 1886. XXXIX, 228p.

SWETTENHAM, *Sir* Frank Athestane, *and others*: Report of the Mauritius Royal Commission, 1909, presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty, June 1910 (Cd.5185). London, Eyre and Spottiswoode Ltd., 1910.60, XIIIp.

Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence printed separately (Cd. 5186), 581p. Documents received by the Commission also printed separately (Cd. 5187), 135p.

SWINDEN, J. B.: Local Government in Mauritius. Mauritius, Government Press, 1946. 25p.

Revision of the Constitution. Correspondence with the Secretary of State for the Colonies. Mauritius, Government Press, 1947. 18p.

Problems of Parliamentary Government in Colonies—A report by the Hansard Society.

The development of rural local government in Mauritius. 12p. (Sessional Paper No. 2 of 1956).

Constitutional development in Mauritius. 56p. (Sessional Paper No. 3 of 1956).

Correspondence on proposals for Constitutional Changes. 5p (Sessional Paper No. 3 of 1957).

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

EVE, Malcolm Trustram. Report of the Mauritius Electoral Boundary Commission. 48p. (Sessional Paper No. 1, 1958).

NAPAL, D., *cd.* Les constitutions de L'île Maurice. (Publication No. 6 of the Mauritius Archives Publication Fund Committee). Port Louis, The Mauritius Printing Coy. Ltd., 1962. 150p

Constitutional development in Mauritius. Despatch No. 699 of the 5th December, 1960 and No. 565 of the 27th July, 1961 from the Secretary of State to the Governor. 7p. (Sessional Paper No. 5 of 1961).

SOCIAL

POPULATION

BEEJADHUR, Aunauth, Les Indiens à l'Ile Maurice. Port Louis, La Typographie Moderne, 1935. 126p.

THORNTON WHITE, L. W. A master plan for Port Louis, Mauritius. South Africa, Cape Times Ltd., 1953. 89p., diag., plans.

UNIENVILLE, Noël, d': L'Ile Menacée. The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 109p., map. illus.

HERCHENRODER, M. *and others*. Report of the Committee on population, 1953-54. 55p. (Sessional Paper No. 4, 1955).

MAURITIUS. *Central Statistical Office.* Natality and fertility in Mauritius, 1825–1955. 1956. 58p.

HAZAREESINGH, K. A history of Indians in Mauitius, Port Louis. The General Printing Establishment, 1950. 220p.

TITMUSS, R., *and* ABEL-SMITH, B. Social policies and population growth in Mauritius. 308p. (Sessional Paper No. 6 of 1960).

BENEDICT, Burton. Indians in a plural society. A report on Mauritius. London, H.M.S.O., 1962. 168p.

SLAVERY

BERNARD, Eugène. Essai sur les nouveaux affranchis de l'Ile Maurice. Maurice, Imp. du Mauricien, 1834. 210p.

NOËL, Karl. La condition matérielle des esclaves à l'Ile de France, période française (1715–1810). *Revue d'Histoire des Colonies,* XL, 3e & 4e trimestre 1954, 303-313.

TOUSSAINT, Auguste, *ed.* Les missions d'Adrien d'Epinay (1830–1834). Port Louis, The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1946. XXXII, 216p.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

EDUCATION

MACQUET, Adolphe. L'instruction à l'Ile Maurice, ancienne Ile de France à l'origine de sa colonisation. Port Louis, Engelbrecht & Cie., 1890. 36p.

WARD, W. E. F.: Report on Education in Mauritius. Mauritius, Government Press, 1952. 58p.

Report of the Select Committee on the Ward Report on Education. Mauritius Government Press, 1953. 41p.

NICHOLS, A. E.: A report on secondary education in Mauritius. Mauritius, The Government Printer, 1949, 31, (2)p.

BENEDICT, Burton. Education without opportunity; education, economics and communalism in Mauritius. University of London, Institute of Commonwealth Studies, Reprint no. 4. 15p. (from *Human Relations*, XI, 4(1958), 315–329).

JONES, J. C. Technical education in Mauritius. Report upon a visit made from 13th to 28th August, 1960. 14p. (Sessional Paper No. 22of 1962).

LOCKWOOD, *Dr.* J. F. An examination of the possibility of setting up a University College in Mauritius. 15p. (Sessional Paper No. 5 of 1962).

ECONOMICS

ECONOMICS

ELLIOT, IVO D. *and* LOUGHNANE, N. G. Financial situation of Mauritius. Report of a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, December, 1931. Presented by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to Parliament by Command of His Majesty, March, 1932. (Cmd. 4034). London H.M. Stationery Office, 1932. 285p., map.

HOOPER, Charles Arthur, *and others*: Report of the Commission of enquiry into unrest on sugar estates in Mauritius, 1937. Mauritius, Government Press, 1938. XXIII, 253p.

LUCE, R. W. Report to the Government of Mauritius on Employment, unemployment and underemployment in the Colony in 1958 together with Report on an investigation into Wages and conditions of employment of labourers and artisans in the Sugar Industry (Sessional Paper No. 7 of 1958).
A time for decision (Sessional Paper No. 8 of 1958).

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

MOODY, S., *and others*. Report of the Commission of Enquiry into the disturbances which occurred in the North of Mauritius in 1943. London, n.d. 81p., 1 map.

COODE AND PARTNERS. Report on harbour facilities and suggested improvements at Port Louis, Mauritius. The Government Printer. 12p., 3 diags.

MAURITIUS. *Central Statistical Office*. The national income and national accounts of Mauritius, 1948-1954. Port Louis. Government Printing, 1956. 33p.

MEADE, E., *and others*. The economic and social structure of Mauritius. 246p., maps. (Sessional Paper No. 7 of 1960).

AGRICULTURE AND AGRONOMY

NORTH COOMBES, A. Tea in Mauritius, 1817–1944. *Revue Agricole de l'île Maurice*, vol. XXIII, No.6, Nov.-Dec. 1944, 238-241.

An historical survey of the tea industry.

NORTH COOMBES, G. A. The fibre industry of Mauritius. Port Louis, The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1951. 85p.

MAURITIUS CHAMBER OF AGRICULTURE. The President's report for the year 1953–54. Centenary Number. The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1954. 117p. illus. tabs.

DUPAVILLON, F. Le manguier à l'île Maurice. Esclapon Ltd., ii, 130p.

SUGARCANE

WALTER, A. The sugar industry of Mauritius: a study in correlation. London, Arthur L. Humphreys, 1910. XVI, 228p.

NORTH COOMBES, A. The Evolution of Sugarcane Culture in Mauritius, with a chapter on the Evolution of the Mauritian Sugar Factory. Mauritius, General Printing, 1937. XV, 197p., illus., map.

SORNAY, Pierre de. La canne à sucre à l'île Maurice. Paris Challamel, 1920. VIII, 677p., illus., maps.

SORNAY, P. DE and SORNAY, A. DE: Manuel de la canne à sucre à l'usage des chargés de cours et des éléves des grandes écoles coloniales. Port Louis, The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1952. 279p. 22.5cm.

A revised 2nd edition.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

WILLIAMS, J. R., *ed.* Proceedings of the 11th Congress of the International Society of Sugar Cane Technologists, Mauritius, 1962. London, Elsevier Publishing Company, 1963. 1,250p., illus.

SCIENTIFIC

METEOROLOGY

HERCHENRODER, MARC. La pluie à l'Ile Maurice. Étude de soixante années d'observations. Préface de Maxime Kœnig. Maurice. The General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1935. 61p.

BOTANY

BAKER, J. G.: Flora of the Mauritius and the Seychelles. London, L. Reeve & Co., 1877, 557p.

VAUGHAN, R. E. *and* WIEHE, P. O.: Studies on the vegetation of Mauritius. *Journal of Ecology*, London. 1937–1947.

HUBBARD, C. E. and VAUGHAN, R. E.: The grasses of Mauritius and Rodriguez. With a foreword by Sir Arthur W. Hill, Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. London, Waterlow & Sons, 1940. 128p., illus.

BROUARD, N. R. A history of woods and forests in Mauritius. Mauritius, The Government Printer, 1963. 86p.

ZOOLOGY

BAISSAC, J. de B.: Poissons de l'île Maurice. *Proceedings Royal Society of Arts and Sciences of Mauritius*, 1950.

HACHISUKA, M.: The Dodo and kindred birds of the Mascarene Islands. London, Witherby, 1953, 250p., illus.

MAMET, R.: Cococoidea of Mauritius. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1949.

MAMET, R.: Hemiptera of Mauritius. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1957.

ROUNTREE, F. R. G. *and others*: Birds of Mauritius. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin*, 1952.

STRICKLAND, H. E. *and* MELVILLE, H. E.: The Dodo and its kindred; or the history, affinities and osteology of the Dodo, Solitaire and other extinct birds of the islands of Mauritius, Rodriguez and Bourbon. London, Reeve, Benham and Reeve, 1848. 142p., 9 woodcuts, 16 plates.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

VINSON, J.: Lepidoptera of the Mascarene Islands. ***Mauritius Institute Bulletin,*** 1938.

VINSON, J.: Coleoptera of Mauritius and Rodriguez. ***Mauritius Institute Bulletin,*** 1956.

WHEELER, DR. J. F. G. and OMMANNEY, DR. F. D.: Report on the Mauritius—Seychelles fisheries survey, 1948–49. London, H.M.S.O., 1953. 145p.

WILLIAMS, J. R.: Hymenoptera of Mauritius. ***Mauritius Institute Bulletin,*** 1958.

VINSON, J. The Obriine beetles of the Mascarene islands. *Mauritius Institute Bulletin,* 1961.

ART

BRADSHAW, T.: Views in the Mauritius, or Isle of France, drawn from nature by T. Bradshaw, and on stone by William Rider, of Leamington; with a memoir of island, and a description of each view. London, James Carpenter & Son, 1832. 40 plates.

LITERARY

GENERAL

ITHIER, J. J. Wasley. La littérature de langue française à l'Ile Maurice. Paris, Lib. M.Lac, 1930. 288p.

ROSNAY, Edouard Fromet de. Table Ovale — Poètes créoles: anthologie mauricienne; galerie poétique de l'Ile de France, 1803–1897. Port Louis, The Planters Gazette, 1897. 522p.

LITERARY PRODUCTIONS: French

CHAROUX, Clément: L'Ile Maurice au temps des diligences. Port Louis, General Printing and Stationery Co. Ltd., 1932. 81p.

GUEUVIN, Charles. Les savanaises, 1856-1866. T.I. and T.II. Port Louis, Typ. Mercantile Record, 1883; The Merchants and Planters Gazette, 1891.

HART, Robert-Edward: Mer Indienne, poèmes. Port Louis, General Printing and Stationery Cy. Ltd., 1925. 82p.

LAGESSE, Marcelle. La diligence s'éloigne à l'aube. Port Louis, Esclapon, 1958. 252p.

LAGESSE, Marcelle. Le vingt floréal au matin. Paris, Julliard, 1960.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

L'HOMME, Léoville. Poésies et poèmes. Port Louis, Esclapon, 1927. 142p.

MASSON, Loys: L'étoile et la clef. Paris, Gallimard, 1946. 366p.

SAINT PIERRE, Jacques Henri Bernardin de. Paul et Virginie.

First published in 1788 and since then often reprinted. The finest French edition is that of Curmer, Paris, 1838. A number of English and American translations are available.

STYLET, [Selmour AHNEE]. Fagots. 2v. Port Louis, Mauritius Printing Cy. Ltd., 1953, 1954. 288p; 330p.

LITERARY PRODUCTIONS: English

MALIM, Michael. Island of the Swan. London, Longmans, Green & Co., 1952. 232p.

OMMANEY, F. D. The Shoals of Capricorn. London, Spottiswoode, Ballantyne & Co. Ltd., 1952. 322p. illus.

HISTORICAL

EARLY HISTORY

PITOT, Albert. T'Eylandt Mauritius. Esquisses historiques (1598–1710), précédées d'une notice sur la découverte des Mascareignes et suivies d'une monographie du Dodo, des Solitaires de Rodrigues et de Bourbon et de l'Oiseau Bleu. Maurice, Coignet frères & Cie., 1905. 372p.

The only complete history of Mauritius during the Dutch period.

VISDELOU-GUIMBEAU, G. de: La découverte des îles Mascareignes. Port Louis, the General Printing and Stationery Cy Ltd., 1949. 65p., illus.

CHAPUISET LE MERLE, André de. Précis d'histoire de l'Ile Maurice, XVe au XVIIIe siècle, Port Louis, Nouvelle Imprimerie Coopérative, 1950. 225p., illus.; maps.

FRENCH HISTORY

PITOT, Abert. L'Ile de France. Esquisses historiques (1715-1810). Port Louis, E. Pezzani, 1899. III, 447p.

MAHÉ DE LABOURDONNAIS, B. F. Mémoire des Iles de France et de Bourbon. Edité par Albert Lougnon et Auguste Toussaint. Paris, E. Leroux, 1937. IX, 204p.

The first complete edition of Labourdonnais' report to the French East India Company on his administration of Mauritius from 1735 to 1740, from the manuscript preserved in the Curepipe Carnegie Library, Mauritius.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

PRENTOUT, Henri. L'Ile de France sous Decaen, 1803-1810. Paris Hachette, 1901. XIV 688p., front.

TOUSSAINT, A. *ed.* Early American Trade with Mauritius (Mauritius Archives Publications). Esclapon Ltd. 86p.

UNIENVILLE, J. Raymond M. d'. Last years of the Isle de France (1800–1814) through texts compiled and presented by J. Raymond d'Unienville. Port Louis, The Mauritius Printing Co. Ltd., 1959. 244p. illus.

CHELIN, A. Le théâtre à l'Ile Maurice: son origine et son développement. The Mauritius Printing Cy. Ltd. *(Société de l'Histoire de l'Ile Maurice,* No. 5). iii, 109p.

LY-TIO-FANE, Madeleine, *ed.* Mauritius and the Spice trade: the odyssey of Pierre Poivre. (Publication No. 4 of the Mauritius Archives Publication Fund Committee). Esclapon Ltd., 1958. 148p., illus.

BIOGRAPHY AND MEMOIRS

Dictionary of Mauritian Biography, *ed.* by Dr. A. Toussaint. Publication of Société de l'Histoire de l'Ile Maurice. 25 parts.

MAURE, André. Souvenirs d'un vieux colon de l'Ile Maurice renfermant tous les événements qui lui sont arrivés depuis 1790 jusqu'en 1837, époque du bill d'émancipation, ce qui renferme une période de 46 ans, dédiés à Sir Walter Minto Farquhar, baronet, gouverneur et capitaine-général des Iles Maurice et dépendances. La Rochelle, Typ. de Frédéric Boutet, 1840. (VI), 526p.

BIJOUX, J. O. Rémy Ollier, sa vie et son oeuvre. Jugement de la postérité. Port Louis, Nouvelle Imprimerie Co-opérative, 1910. 452p., 1 plate.

Rémy Ollier was prominent among those who struggled for the abolition of the colour bar in Mauritius in the first half of the 19th century.

CREPIN, Pierre. Mahé de Labourdonnais. Paris, E. Leroux, 1922. XXXVI, 488p., illus., maps.

Thesis submitted for the degree of *Docteur-ès-Lettres* of the University of Paris. Labourdonnais was one of the most successful French governors of Mauritius.

DELAPLACE, Revd. F. Le Père Jacques-Désiré Laval, apôtre de l'Ile Maurice, 1803–1864, *ed.*, revue et augmentée par le Père J. M. Pivault. Paris, Gabriel Beauchesne, 1932. XLVI, 396p. XII.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

OLMSTED, J. M. D. Charles Edouard Brown-Séquard; a nineteenth century neurologist and endocrinologist. Baltimore, the Johns Hopkins press, 1946. 253p. front.

LE JUGE DE SEGRAIS, R. Les deux princesses (Publication No. 7 of the Mauritius Archives Publication Fund Committee). Mauritius Printing Coy. Ltd., 1963. 118p., illus.

GEOGRAPHICAL

GEOGRAPHY

ARDILL, R. H. A School Geography of Mauritius. Mauritius Government Press, 1945. 55p., maps and diagrams.

Guide Bleu. Madagascar, Comores, Réunion, Ile Maurice; établi par Claude Janicot. Paris, Hachette, 1955. 7th Section, pp. 405–422.

TRAVELS

LEGUAT, François. Voyage et aventures de François Leguat et de ses compagnons en deux îles désertes des Indes Orientales, avec la relation des choses les plus remarquables qu'ils ont observées dans l'Isle Maurice, à Batavia, au Cap de Bonne Espérance dans l'Isle de Ste. Hélène et en d'autres endroits de leur route. Londres, David Mortier, 1708. 2 vols. with plates and maps.

English edition with notes by Captain Pasfield Olivier for the Hakluyt Society. London, 1891, 2 vols.

SAINT PIERRE, Bernardin de: Voyage à l'Isle de France, à l'Isle de Bourbon, au Cap de Bonne Espérance . . . par un officier du Roi. Paris, Merlin, 1773. 2v.

BORY DE ST VINCENT, J. B. G. M. Voyage dans les quatre principales îles des mers d'Afrique, fait par ordre du gouvernement, pendant les années neuf et dix de la République (1801 et 1802) avec l'histoire de la traversée du Capitaine Baudin jusqu'au Port Louis de l'Ile Maurice. Paris, F. Buisson, 1804. 3v. 1 atlas.

BILLIARD, Auguste. Voyage aux colonies orientales, ou lettres écrites des Iles de France et de Bourbon pendant les années 1817, 1818, 1819 et 1820 à M. le Cte. de Montalivet. Paris, Ladvocat, 1822. XIX, 406p.

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APPENDIX IV—*continued*

BACKHOUSE, James. A narrative of a visit to the Mauritius and South Africa. London, Hamilton, Adams & Co., 1844 xvi, 648p. lvip.

RYAN, Vincent W. Mauritius and Madagascar: journals of an eight years' residence in the diocese of Mauritius and of a visit to Madagascar., 340p., illus.

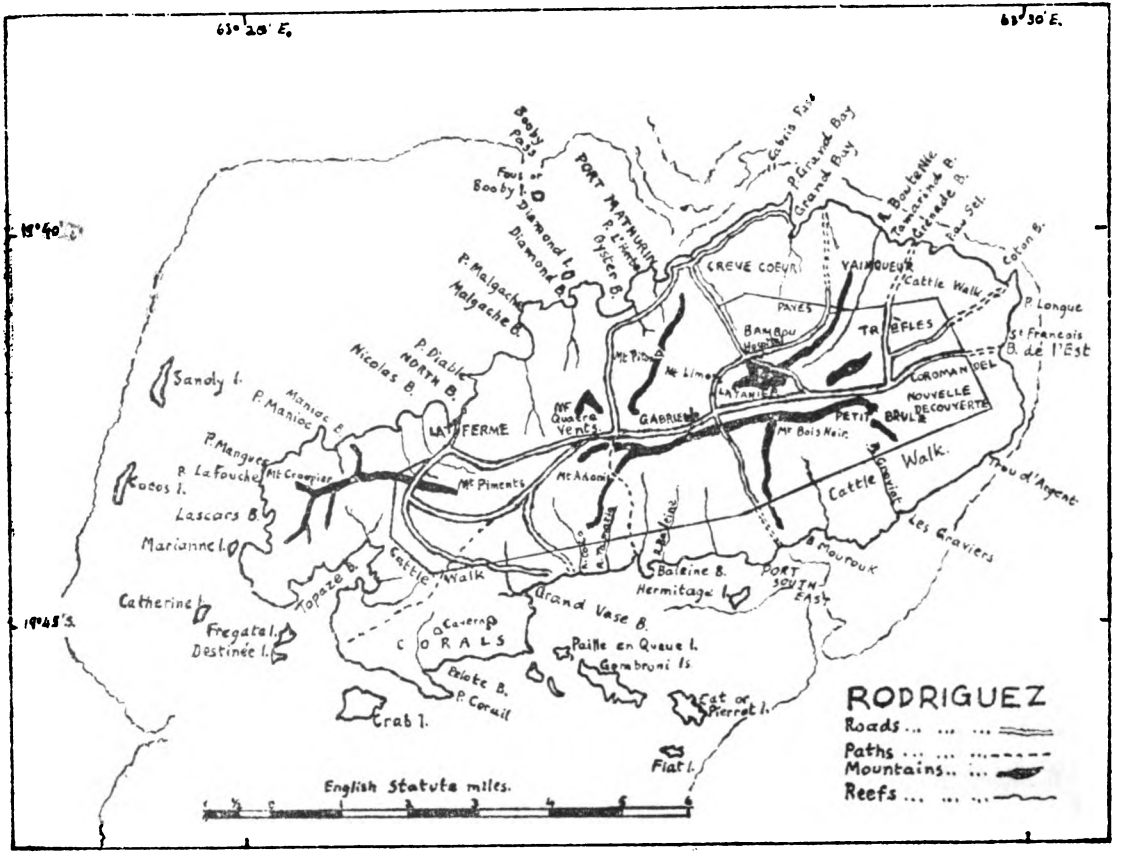
PIKE, Nicholas. Sub-tropical rambles on the land of the Aphanapteryx, personal experiences, adventures and wanderings in and around the island of Mauritius. London, Sampson Low, Marston and Searle, 1873. (II), XVIII, 512p., illus., 15 plates, maps.

AVINE, Grégoire. Les voyages du chirurgien Avine à l'Ile de France et dans la mer des Indes au début du XIXe siècle, publiés par Raymond Decary, Membre de l'Académie des Sciences d'Outre-Mer. (Publication No. 5 of the Mauritius Archives Publication Fund Committee). 85p., illus.

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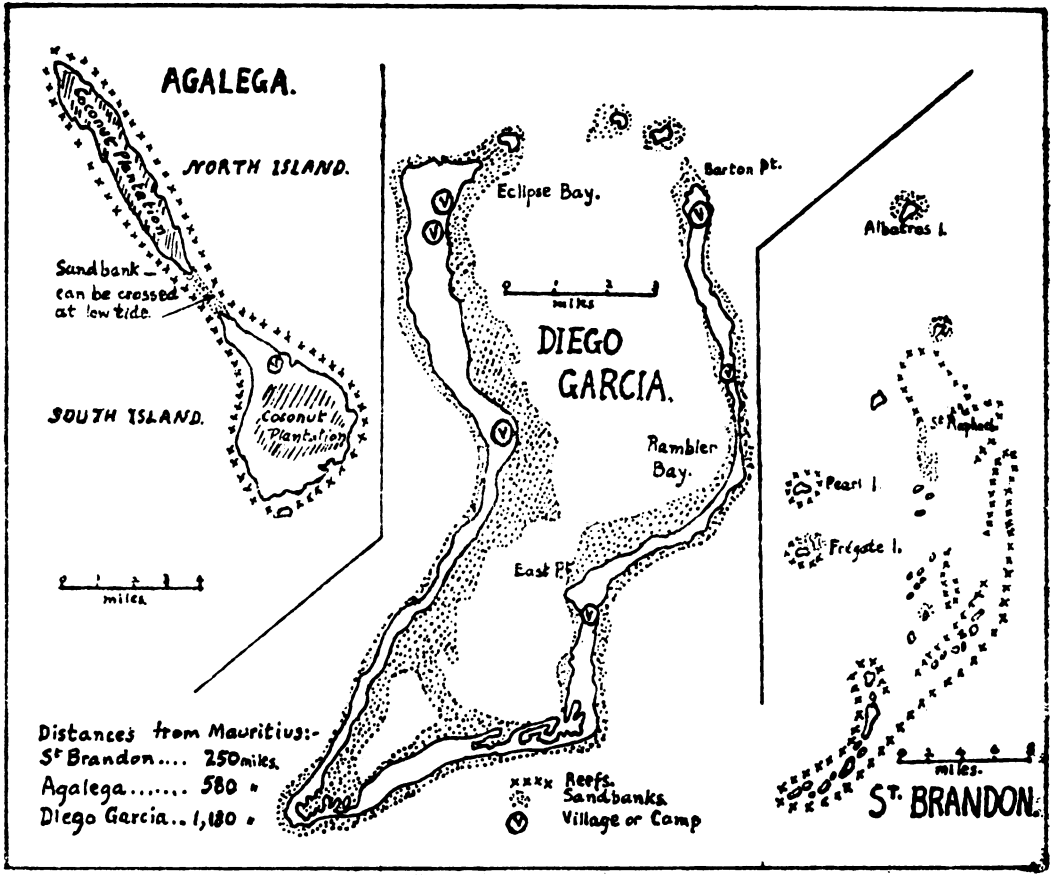
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AGALEGA.
NORTH ISLAND.
Coconut Plantation
Sandbank can be crossed at low tide.
SOUTH ISLAND.
Coconut Plantation
miles
Eclipse Bay.
Barton Pt.
miles
DIEGO GARCIA.
Rambler Bay.
East Pt.
Albatras I.
St Ranland
Pearl I.
Frégate I.
miles
ST. BRANDON.
Distances from Mauritius:-
St Brandon.... 250 miles
Agalega..... 580 "
Diego Garcia.. 1,180 "
Reefs.
Sandbanks.
Village or Camp

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